



Falmouth Economic Improvement Committee

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 3, 2018

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|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|---|---|---|
| Pamela DiPietro-Hale <i>Chair</i> | ✓ | Sandra Lipsey | ✓ | Andrea Ferrante <i>Council Liaison</i> | - |
| Chris Wasileski <i>Vice Chair</i> | - | William Lunt III | - | Nathan Poore <i>Staff</i> | - |
| Dimitri Balatsos | ✓ | Mindy Schwartz | ✓ | Theo Holtwijk <i>Staff</i> | ✓ |
| Brian Bakke | ✓ | | | | |

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm.

1. FEIC Position Paper

The committee signed off on final edits of the position paper. Pam will present the paper at the Town Council meeting on October 22, 2018.

2. Review of Draft Minutes

The draft minutes of the September 19 meeting were approved as written.

3. Business Forum Planning

Staff will prepare the announcement for the 11/15 Forum and will update the Town handout. Drafts of these will be presented at 10/17 meeting.

The committee was interested to contribute to the Very Merry Falmouth event in December. Theo will ask Kimberley Darling to come to the next meeting to discuss the plans and how the committee can help. The committee discussed some of the history of this event.

The committee discussed updating the committee flyer. Theo will work with Meredith on that.

The committee also discussed future forums. Two ideas were to focus on energy efficiency and on STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) education.¹ Dimitri suggested a program on cyber security as that involves privacy and legal issues.

Theo reported that he and Meredith had met with school leadership to discuss opportunities to link STEM education with Falmouth businesses, and that they were quite interested in that. Sandra stated that there were benefits for STEM internships with local businesses who would provide mentoring. She said that students sign up for internships in early 2019 and we should not lose that

¹ For energy, see REAC: <https://www.falmouthme.org/recycling-energy-advisory-committee>
For STEM, see: <https://www.ed.gov/stem>

opportunity. Mindy added that STEM tours could be geared to younger students with internships more suitable for older students. The committee agreed to do a STEM program in January 2019.

The committee decided to do an energy efficiency forum in March 2019. There was a suggestion to have Efficiency Maine come to Falmouth for that. Theo ask Kimberley Darling to address that at the next meeting.

Mindy was interested in a State of Maine program to learn about new policies and initiatives at the State level, and to learn about statistics that may inform business strategies. The committee decided to wait on deciding on that until there is a new administration.

There was also discussion to have a program with one or more area senators or representatives. Sandra said she was not as interested in that. She thought that a program that dealt with entrepreneurs and starting a business would have more of a local appeal, especially if it included “pearls of wisdom.”

4. Project Updates

The committee discussed how the installation of natural gas in Falmouth was coming along. Theo stated that the installation has been slower than originally announced, but that Summit Natural gas is moving forward with it. For example, he said, the company is planning to install a gas main in the Route 100 when road construction there takes place, even though there is no gas service there yet.

Theo gave the committee on the various zoning updates that the Community Development Committee is and will be working on.

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will be on October 17 at 4:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, October 15, 2018