



Falmouth Economic Improvement Committee

Wednesday, April 1, 2015 Minutes

Attendance:

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Sandra Lipsey	√	Phil Bixby	√	Janice DeLima	√
William Lunt III	√	Anne Theriault	√	Dimitri Balatsos	√
Pam DiPietro-Hale	-	Chris Wasileski	-	Luc Walker	-

Council Liaison:

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Staff present:

Nathan Poore, Theo Holtwijk

Others present:

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The meeting was started around 3:30 PM.

1. Prepare for April 14 Public Forum

The committee discussed how the Forum should be organized. Preference was for a round table set up. The committee was OK with a brief PowerPoint presentation to help inform the audience and felt that the responsibility for that belonged to the FEIC. There was a suggestion to have the matrix displayed on poster boards.

Sandra noted that important feedback can be obtained in the very first part of the event, before the presentation even, and that the committee should be alert on logging that information in. The committee discussed how that could be best done. There was a question how informed the audience would be at the Forum. Some may be quite informed with very specific feedback to deliver, others less so. It was recognized that this was also an opportunity for people to see the Lunt space.

The committee discussed what slides were important for the presentation. Janice agreed to be the presenter. Nathan suggested an initial slide that would state: "Do you want a vibrant Falmouth? You have come to the right place!" He felt that this would help set the right tone.

2. Other Business

Phil had to leave the meeting, but stated that he had a busy upcoming work schedule and would likely miss a number of meetings. He felt that therefore he should not continue to be vice chair and suggested Janice for that post. He stated he was also considering whether he should resign or not. The committee understood his dilemma.

Upon a motion by Sandra and second by Dimitri, Janice was unanimously elected vice chair.

3. Public Forum Preparation

Janice wondered if the round tables should be divided by topic, but the committee decided against that. It felt that discussions needed to happen organically. It was suggested to add the Town website to the bottom of any handouts, so people who have that at the ready.

The committee was OK with posting the draft plan as is. Nathan suggested deleting a reference in the matrix that mentioned the library. Theo said there was a reference to the Turnpike-Route 100 interchange that should be deleted and that he had some other minor edits. These changes will be made before the plan is posted. The committee understood that after the Forum it had one last opportunity to make edits to the plan.

Theo reviewed the idea for the on-line survey and the committee was supportive of that. Surveys could also be completed at the meeting as another way for people to give feedback.

Janice commented that she felt it was an incredible plan and that one year the committee did not quite know what it was going to do.

Dimitri wanted to make sure that an implementation monitoring task was clearly identified and reserved for FEIC. Theo noted that this was addressed in the matrix. The committee discussed the role of the FEIC in implementing the plan. It hoped the Council would allow it to propose a set of Year 1 actions and get the OK for that. Sandra felt it was a good plan, but was less concerned that the FEIC be responsible to oversee implementation.

The committee reviewed the timeline for completion of the plan and reaffirmed its interest to have the plan reviewed by the current Town Council. After the Forum Theo will collect written feedback from the FEIC and consultants, as well as from the survey, by April 28 and create a master list of comments. This would then be reviewed on the 5/6 meeting and decisions would be made whether or not to make changes to the plan. The Town Council would be invited to discuss the plan at the FEIC's meeting on 5/20, and the Council could take formal action on 5/27.

4. Other Business

Theo mentioned that the Maine DECD approved the OceanView-Natural Gas TIF in record time. Bill asked some questions about that TIF.

He also mentioned that on April 8 the Route 100 committee will take feedback on its Vision recommendations for the corridor. He encouraged committee members to attend.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting is April 14 at 6:00 PM at the Lunt Auditorium.

The committee adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, April 3, 2015