



Falmouth Economic Improvement Committee

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 7, 2018

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	-			Meredith Sells <i>Staff</i>	-

Public: Amanda Henson

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.

1. Review of Draft Minutes

The draft minutes of the October 17 meeting were approved as written.

2. FEIC Position Statement Reception

Theo distributed feedback received on the position statement. Pam stated that she had gone to the Council meeting to read and present the statement, and that, with help of Sandra, answers had been prepared in response to questions from The Forecaster. She commented that the FEIC works on behalf of businesses in Falmouth, and that she was concerned that some feedback personalized the issue. Dimitri stated that the feedback showed that Falmouth is vibrant with involved citizens who pay attention. He wondered how they learned about the position statement. Theo said the position statement had received widespread distribution as he had posted it on the FEIC website and sent it to the business distribution e-mail list.

3. Business Forum Planning

The committee stated it would like the guest speaker at the upcoming forum, John Wasileski, to speak to how he makes his business decisions. Sandra commented that OceanView is a real success story of a business that was willing to take risks. Theo shared two forum handouts that Meredith had worked on. The committee liked both handouts.

Theo handed out a draft outline for the energy efficiency forum that Kimberley had prepared. Sandra suggested that Gorham Savings Bank and Lamey-Wellehan might be good examples to showcase or hold the forum at. The committee is looking for repeatable examples of energy efforts that businesses. Pam wondered if Rivalries might be a good location to hold the forum at. Theo will pass the feedback on to Kimberley.

4. Very Merry Falmouth 2018

Theo passed out various handouts for the Very Merry event and reminded committee members to make their contacts with local restaurants ASAP and be in contact with Kimberly about that.

5. Project Updates

Theo mentioned the upcoming growth and density forum. The committee asked how the forum would be conducted, if a presentation would be made, and how many people may be expected. Theo explained that as well as how the forum had been promoted. Dimitri mentioned that AirBnB is an issue in South Portland and wondered to what extent it is also an issue in Falmouth.

Nathan gave an update on Falmouth Center. He ran through the various studies and peer reviews that had been prepared, or were in process, on stormwater, lighting, noise, and traffic. Pam asked if there had been any changes in the scope of the project. Nathan stated that there was no request for a height exception any more, that there would be no school impact due to proposed housing limitations, and that limiting the time of day for the operation of the athletic fields was also being discussed. Amanda Henson mentioned the noise from the ballfields.

Sandra stated that the natural way how development progresses is that revenue is generated quickly. She understood that some people are angry at the ballfields and the clearcutting. Sandra felt that any development would involve clearcutting. She said that this development would take 2, 3 or more years to be built out, and that it would take time and be done in phases. Pam wondered if the Town could force the developer to complete the project. Nathan said that the only tool the Town has to that end is incentive based. Amanda Henson said that she had requested copies of the studies, but had not received any. Nathan said that he would get her whatever studies had been received by the Town.

6. Next meeting

The next FEIC meeting will be December 5, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Draft minutes prepared by Theo Holtwijk, November 29, 2018