

Cornwall Economic Development Commission

EDC Meeting

Minutes 1/18/17

AGENDA

Janet Carlson called the meeting to order at 9:11am. In attendance- Janet, Jacque, Richard, Todd, Priscilla, Gordon. Dick, Priscilla, Kate, Gordon and Bianca (guest)

There were no additions to the agenda.

Reports

- Gordon - P&Z the town plan and work groups press on, focusing attention on agriculture, farm breweries, agrihoods, lot sizes and commercial zoning. It needs to open up. There is need for professional offices; a co-working space is a possibility. CCT is now headquartered in Railroad Square.

septic study - At the latest P&Z meeting, 20 letters were submitted protesting the site of the proposed water treatment plant. Understandable reaction and concern. They are looking up and down the river for possible alt locations. It must make sense cost benefit wise. It's important to educate all of Cornwall how the treatment system works and will add value to town beyond center. It's clean.

Dick weighed in that its good there's a debate and facts about the system and implementation must be stressed. Listen to concerns. We are advocates for vitality and strongly believe the septic system is a key element. Kate agreed that other towns have

upgraded. We need to show examples and how waiting isn't in town's best interest. It is a tightly regulated system. Janet believes it's in best interest if we want a robust commercial district. There will be a return on investment. The location needs to be addressed but in the meantime, we support the ongoing study and will continue to listen to town's needs and supply facts.

- Janet & guest Bianca (who will be joining us as a member but is not currently able to vote) discussed CBA and how we might get it up and running again. This group is made up of existing brick and mortar businesses for the most part. Perhaps fewer meetings would keep up interest? A newsletter letting Cornwall businesses know the focus of the different commissions and boards? It would be good to expand to home businesses too, even crafters. Quick discussions of what might come into railroad plaza, such as a commercial kitchen. A large event that would drive traffic like the old bridge dance was also mentioned. In the meantime, Bianca serves as point person as she has been part of the business community for years and has many ideas for promoting but needs support.

- Janet and Jacque - Marketing - Will get together to update the EDC site. Events should be updated regularly and we want to kick off a "Consider Cornwall" campaign emphasizing quality of life, excellent schools and business opportunities. J&J will create a social media calendar to highlight goings on around town and articles of interest.

Nominations

We welcome Bianka. Your ideas and input will be valuable to the group. And we say goodbye to David and thank him profusely for his service.

Priscilla nominated Janet to continue as Chair and Jacque as Secretary

Jacque nominated Kate as Treasurer and Priscilla as Vice Chair.

Motions seconded and all Yays. Passed.

Two vacancies remain. We will invite Simon to introduce himself and hear why he'd like to become involved with the EDC. Janet also suggested a newcomer to town, Trey S.

Goals

See agenda

Brand the School - nature's classroom angle?

There's a meeting on the 19th at ccs with EdVance. Public welcome, I believe.

Stroll - perhaps do Roll and Stroll same weekend of open Art studios

Invite Trinity to next meeting. How can we collaborate?

Publicize benefits of town through Consider Cornwall campaign, tie in with updated website and social media calendar

Unfinished Business

- measurable goals

- kiosk, pamphlet, EDC website, school branding, social media calendar

Next meeting, 2/13 at Pearly's

Adjourned, 10:23 am