

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Approved Minutes from the meeting held on  
Tuesday, February 26, 2019  
6:30pm - 8:00pm

ATTENDEES: Kat Carpenter, Janice Pack, Ray Cilley, Heath Mitchell, Roger Lessard

Kat opened the meeting by going over the agenda. She mentioned that she hoped we would write something for each issue of The Spirit; each due date was listed in the Google Calendar which she had encouraged all to download and join.

The Charter was discussed, and she hopes we will vote to approve that tonight.

Kat told the Committee that she had connected with Jennifer Beck of the Wilton EcoDev Committee, and she said one of their great ideas was that each member should try and bring someone to each meeting.

Kat said that we would vote to elect new officers at the next meeting, as she was probably going to end up as Planning Board Chair.

It was noted that one of the problems the former restaurant had was that the cost of the community septic became prohibitive. Perhaps we could look into that.

**Kat moved to approved the Minutes of the last meeting as written. Roger seconded, and all were in favor; motion passed.**

Kat brought up the Right to Know RSA and wanted to be sure that everyone was familiar with the rules and regulations of it.

Roger was disappointed by tonight's attendance. Was it because this is School Vacation? Kat said perhaps we could write the article for the Spirit to entice new members to join us. She'd like to have an EDAC Corner. Roger said we need to define what EDAC is. We could rerun the article that we ran before. Roger said it is important to spell out exactly what we do, and what would be expected from anyone attending.

Ray spoke about grant writing and has spoken to a professional grant writer. Kat asked about the cost; Ray said there are some rates on her website. There is a Rural Development Grant coming up; Kat was thinking we could do a net metering study. The grant application is due March 29<sup>th</sup>. Ray also said there is someone in town who does it; he doesn't remember his name. Kat will reach out to Jess and Corelle and see if they know his name.

Kat asked if anyone had looked at any of the other websites she had sent links to. Ray said he'd looked at Wilton's ECO DEV website, and he was impressed by it, and also by the way they delegate tasks and responsibilities. Kat was impressed by the studies they've done and grants they've written, and she has received some contacts that might be useful for us.

42 She brought up the Spring Planning & Zoning Conference to be held on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>,  
43 and said that if anyone wanted to go, EDAC would foot the bill for it.

44 Moving to the Brainstorming Session, Kat had drawn 5 “buckets” on the chalkboard and listed:

- 45 1. Advise/make recommendations to BOS/PB
- 46 2. Prepare info for prospective & existing businesses
- 47 3. Advise prospective & existing business in approval processes (ZBA/PB/BOS)
- 48 4. Develop long range ED strategy for Greenfield (master plan)
- 49 5. Provide forum for business networking.

50 Heath mentioned that one task could be to provide a process to someone who wanted to open  
51 a business in town. Kat said she would like to ask Lora how we could make the process  
52 better, as she had come before the Planning Board last year. How to educate the  
53 townspeople was discussed; would that be the purview of the EDAC? Roger said if you want a  
54 business to move into town, you don’t want them to feel like they were duped; they need clear,  
55 concise information.

56 Roger asked what KrossLink was; Kat said the Library was hosting that program. She said  
57 that personally, the times it was held were not convenient for her, and Bev told her she hasn’t  
58 had a great turn out. Roger said maybe it should be explained a little bit better. Kat said that  
59 could be an easy goal.

60 Ray thought a goal could be to improve coverage of things happening in Greenfield. He thinks  
61 the more attention we could bring toward Greenfield, the better. He thought the Ledger  
62 Transcript could take more notice of us. Ray thought it would be great to do an interview with  
63 the new owners of the sawmill. Suggest a feature on the guy who is building the storage units.

64 Heath took notes on some things that the EDAC could do. Roger shared information on an  
65 article he’d read regarding print media decreasing. Kat mentioned FaceBook and You Tube,  
66 and could that tie in with offering kids community service hours?

67 Things that students could do might include verifying the business listings in The Spirit. Ray  
68 said they could do some research on the agriculture that exists in Greenfield.

69 **ACTION ITEM: EDAC WILL WRITE A LETTER TO BOS REGARDING WEBSITE ACCESS**  
70 **AND ACTIVITY.**

71 Kat talked about our identity as a town; what we’re known for. Heath said that by doing a  
72 business inventory we might find a way for people to pool their resources. Posting photos from  
73 around town, or links to trails could be a draw.

74 Greenfield State Park was discussed, and the fact that they have been at 70% occupancy  
75 lately. Kat gave an update on the Tourist Train and Roger gave one on the wildflower garden  
76 across the street. Kat suggested EDAC work on:

- 77 1. Reducing taxes/cost as Greenfield is the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in the Monadnock Region
- 78 2. Net Metering – establish a solar array
- 79 3. Advertising Town Septic which is nowhere near capacity

80 She said there is no water and no septic at the garage across from the Harvester; Ray  
81 wondered how that would affect sale of the property. Kat asked what other ideas we could  
82 work on to improve the tax base.

83 Roger said that years ago the Energy Committee had suggested putting a wind turbine up at  
84 the Recycling Center. Kat wondered why one couldn't be installed at Crotchet Mountain, or  
85 maybe a solar array. Heath said we need to create reasons for people to come to Greenfield.  
86 Kat said our question is how do we attract people and industry to town?

87 Roger liked pushing the blueberry image, and Ray agreed. That could be our theme. Kat said  
88 we could do a contest for the high bush blueberry logo, and put it on banners.

89 Returning to the "bucket tasks" above, Kat asked each to claim one.

90 Janice will take #1

91 Kat will take #2

92 Heath will take #3

93 Roger will take #4

94 Ray will take #5

95 Kat asked everyone to provide an update before the next meeting. Ray said he has made  
96 some books with the full copy of the Master Plan and the Charrette for anyone who wants one.

97 **Kat motioned that the EDAC accept the new Charter as written. Heath seconded. All**  
98 **were in favor; motion passed.**

99 **Roger moved to adjourn. Janice seconded. All were in favor; motion passed.**

100 The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM

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