

**Jaffrey Economic Development Council
Draft Minutes 1/18/17**

9:00 am Town Office

Present: Bill Schofield, Chair
Peter Chamberlain, Vice Chair
Larry Alvarez, Cathy Furze, Sam Hackler, Don MacIsaac, Ed Merrell,
Max Mitchell & Travis Kumph, Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce

Staff: Jo Anne Carr

1. Stephanie Niemela

Stephanie was introduced to the EDC, known to many folks already. She is looking forward to working together and reminded us that the Dueling Pianos fundraiser was coming up at the Shattuck, January 27.

2. Summary of projects for the year – not a complete list but a start.

- The estimate for paving Community Field came in high, Jo Anne will work with DPW to reduce the area.
- Patch and repair of selected sidewalks downtown can be done, a work program will be developed after Town Meeting
- There was a question on the future of the SB TIFD – which will remain in effect until the bonds are paid, the last one expiring in 2033. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of an early payoff. Municipal bonds issued through the Bond Bank are only refinanced when the bank refinances. If such an opportunity arises, the Selectboard will consider all bonds for early payoff. It was also asked why Fitch Road couldn't be permanently removed. While Jo Anne and the subcommittee investigated this option there was disagreement between the Department of Revenue and the legal staff at the Local Government Center. This should be revisited next year.
- Dom and Jo Anne are working with Peter Lambert on a “tourist” map of town which depicts the best of Jaffrey. The flip side will have additional detail on the sites. It was suggested to also include an events calendar, such as Riverfest, Scarecrows, Fireworks and others.

3. Other business

Don discussed the petition warrant article brought by Rindge to change the funding formula of the school district. The vote would need a 2/3rds majority to pass. There is a proposal to amend the article to establish a study committee to review the formula and present an option(s) to the School Board before town votes next year. This discussion focused on the recent town wide revaluations and perceptions that there may be a different approach between the towns.

The owners at 39 Webster Street have agreed to apply for a grant through the Southwest Region Planning Commission for hazardous materials evaluation and phase I assessment if necessary. The site nomination was accepted by the SWRPC Brownfields committee.

4. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: February 15, 2017