

Jaffrey Economic Development Council
Draft Minutes 5/19/21

9:00 am VIA ZOOM

Present: Peter Chamberlain, Chair, Larry Alvarez, Dominique Cassie, James Georgopoulos, Ed Merrell, Stephanie Porter, Mike Shea

Staff: Jo Anne Carr, Director

1. Elections

After a bit of negotiations, Peter Chamberlain was voted in as Chair and Larry Alvarez as Vice Chair. Thank you for stepping up!

2. EPA Brownfields – Community-Wide Assessment

Jo Anne announced that the Town had won an award of \$300,000 from the EPA to conduct a community-wide assessment of brownfield sites. Brownfields are properties the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The priority site is the W.W. Cross facility with the goal of completing the environmental assessment, developing a remedial action plan for the eventual demo and site redevelopment. The secondary site is the St Patrick's School. The project will be seeking volunteers to participate in an Advisory Committee to review other potential sites in town for assessment and planning. More information will be coming over the summer. The project doesn't officially kick off until October 1, the federal fiscal year, but we are asking for a pre-award agreement so that an RFP for a qualified engineer can be on board and ready to start on that date.

3. Update on the Site Plan/Welcome Center/Kiosk for downtown sites.

There was quite a bit of interest and discussion over potential re-uses of the Lab and Lager building before it is demo'd. In general having an empty storefront is not ideal. Ideas began with taking the existing signs down and replacing them with more informational posters. Kiosk/Welcome Center/Info Booth; also maps, walking tours, upcoming events; Food Trucks, EV Charging Station and or parklet. There was a question regarding access to electricity if there was a stand alone feature. There was also interest in painting a mural on the wall near the rail trail.

Jo Anne will set up a meeting with the NH DOT project manager Tobey Reynolds for the EDC to discuss these questions and more. (Note that meeting occurred on May 24 - notes are attached).

4. Board Membership

There remains an opening for a Stone Arch Bridge Advisory Committee member, Dom has spoken with Peter Constant (Café 532) who is interested. He has been invited to the next meeting. Stephanie had interest from a couple of additional individuals from the Stone Arch District, she can report back next month.

5. Other Business/Updates

Homer Belletete Welcome Center will be moved shortly. Its new home for now will be on the grassy area in front of the plaza, near the corner of People's Bank. The nbench will also be moved along with the bricks.

James asked whether our business incentives are well positioned on the website for prospective investors. Jo Anne will review the site and make changes (Note – links to the website and the DowntownJaffrey were sent out for EDC comment)

Town's business webpage [here](#) DowntownJaffrey [here](#) Password: 28Main603!

!!Next Meeting will be in person at the Fire Station!!