

Jaffrey Economic Development Council
Draft Minutes 03/16/22

8:00 am Jaffrey Fire Station

Present: Peter Chamberlain, Chair, Dominique Cassie, Cathy Furze, Tim Gordon, Ed Merrell, Bill Schofield.

Staff: Jon Frederick, Town Manager, Jo Anne Carr, Director

Host: David Chamberlain, Jaffrey Fire Chief

The meeting started with discussion of the chair and vice chair positions. Bill Schofield nominated and Tim Gordon seconded keeping the current leaders in place for the next year. It was voted unanimously to have Peter remain as chair and Cathy as vice chair. Thank you for your continued work for the Town.

1. Town Meeting Debrief

There were 93 registered voters in attendance, all warrant articles passed. Stratton Road Sewer main bond passed and the bid package is prepped and ready for posting. Additional funding appropriation was supported for the Cold Stone Springs municipal water supply. The funds will be from a grant through the Economic Development Administration and not represent an additional burden to tax payers.

2. Cooperative Training Program: EDC/TEAM/Chamber

Stephanie had received a request from a downtown business for a grant to update their website. The TEAM Jaffrey BOD felt that providing training and tools for businesses would be a better use of limited funds. Jo Anne noted that Hanna Grimes has an upcoming workshop for Business Marketing and Social Media on March 30. The notices have been promoted on the Town's Facebook page. Jo Anne also noted that there is an opportunity for one on one coaching through Hanna Grimes at no cost for up to 3 times. This information can be promoted by the Town, TEAM and the Chamber. Topics include non-profit management and fundraising, small business law, logo design, bookkeeping and more. It's important to keep pushing these opportunities out to businesses.

3. Master Plan Economic Development Chapter

Jo Anne shared the draft survey for comment. It might be more effective if team members met with the businesses to personally solicit feedback. The data for the chapter is being collected through the SW Region Planning Commission. Ed noted that the Bureau of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) is developing Collaborative Economic Development Regions (CEDRs) statewide and for the SW region will be Cheshire and Sullivan Counties.

4. Other Business/Updates

Stephanie reported that there are 6 candidates for the executive Director position for TEAM and interviews are expected in April.

Jo Anne is participating in bi-weekly meetings with the BEA to stay apprised of new initiatives and funding. A recent announcement included \$100M in allocations through the Federal funding stream ARPA – for housing development.

Tim presented a proposal for a shuttle out of town to Mount Monadnock as a means to promote tourism. After a brief discussion, the committee supported his pursuing the concept.