

Jaffrey Economic Development Council
Draft Minutes 8/9/18

9:00 am Town Office

Present: Larry Alvarez, Dominique Cassie, Cathy Furze, Sam Hackler, Ed Merrell, Stephanie Niemela, Bill Schofield

Staff: Jo Anne Carr, Director

1. Update on Grants

- a. Complete Streets: Goodnow Street upgrades is pending with the MAST Steering committee. There was a request that the project cut costs in some fashion. There is not much flexibility in the budget and as asphalt prices can vary widely, the project cost will be pending bids in the spring. If awarded.
- b. USDA Broadband: Despite having a strong application, we were told that we did not receive the grant as the Town's income was too high and unemployment numbers too low. We are invited to re-apply this fall. JC did debrief with USDA, its not clear how we can improve the application if we can't meet their demographic criteria. She will meet with USDA in October. CF noted that the website InMyArea.com gives options for internet providers.

2. Housing Workshop

JC reported that the Area Employers Forum is interested in workforce housing opportunities. Topics could include: Impact investing, alternative funding mechanisms, grant opportunities. Invitees: local municipalities, developers, employers. This will require a concerted effort of several individuals to make happen. There is a half day conference on housing coming up in October which may be of interest. <https://www.nhhfa.org/events>

3. Economic Development Plan

JC proposed conducting a Market Analysis in preparation for updating the Economic Development Plan as a means of data gathering. The sense from the EDC was not to proceed until the downtown traffic project was settled. There is reluctance to invest limited funding at tis time.

4. Other Business

- a. The Next Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting won't be scheduled until after Labor Day.
- b. TAP Sidewalk application is due September 7.

4 Adjourn

Next meeting Date: September 13, 2018 @ 9:00 AM