

**TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
April 14, 2016**

Minutes - DRAFT

Present: Libby Borden, Toby Young, Mary Fanette, Doreen Kelly

Absent: Jenny Munch, Pete Anderson, Dan Hincks, Bill Brown, Larry Hannafin, Jim Nelson

Visitors: Sue Dyer, Sally Vaun, Robert Dance, Sue Frisch, Steve Melville, Sue Melville, Stefanie Gouey, Jon Riederman

Libby Borden called the meeting to order.

Mary Fanette moved to approve the March minutes, Toby Young seconded. All were in favor.

Libby said that the EDC's priority was to fill the two buildings downtown for WIN, but hopefully permanently. She had spoken to Bill Brown about ways to make the town inviting for the WIN weekend.

Norfolk Foundation - Steve Melville

There are two things in the mix right now. The Norfolk Foundation is looking into buying 6 Station Place, the hardware store. The Foundation is also looking into options for the Corner Store.

Ideas for WIN

Libby suggested a town tag sale in the Corner Store. She is going to speak with Larry Hannafin about this.

Another option for the Corner Store would be to get Schuyler Thomson to do a weekend event for WIN.

Jenny Munch has suggested the town opening up Tobey Pond for all visitors and have events there over the weekend. Sue Dyer will need to speak with the Selectmen to see if this is a possibility.

Jon Riederman spoke to both the owner of 6 Station Place about renting the place for a few days for an art gallery, and spoke to Five Points Gallery in Torrington about helping with this.

Libby read Bill Brown's list to make the town look better: signage for Sewer District / flowers, bandstand for village green / hide garbage cans for Haystack Pizza / flowers for town of Norfolk signage / more discreet RE signs in front of homes.

Ruthie said we should just have more flowers everywhere!

Libby asked that people continue to think of ways to beautify the town for WIN.

Town Website – Mary Fanette

He is on track again and is about to finish up the town government section so Mary can enter data. He will then focus on the calendar and then a format/design for the directory of businesses, etc. He is committed to getting this finalized by the end of April.

Community Association – Sally Vaun

They hope to put some flowers into a few places, including the places they historically plant, as well as new places such as the fountain on the green.

Doreen mentioned that Joel is looking into refurbishing the RR gate. It would be a big project but worth it. A discussion ensued about the library's plans for Phase II.

Maps – Sue Frisch

The new maps have been published – there are some changes to both the map and the text. The distribution has been broadened. The next phase is to put it on the web.

WIN – Ruthie Melville

They are coming along and everyone is planning their events for the weekend. They have a website and Facebook page. The website is www.weekendinnorfolk.org.

Concerns about downtown - Stefanie Gouey

She is very concerned about the downtown – the aesthetics are horrible, the traffic flow is bad, parking is tough, the walkways are too steep and have lighting issues. The town needs to focus on this. A discussion ensued about some of the problems to be addressed.

Steve Melville mentioned that these concerns will be the focus of the Norfolk Foundation and they plan to speak with each community organization.

Infinity – Jon Riederman

All is going well in Norfolk. They will be sponsoring musical events throughout town for WIN.

Libby adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Toby Young