



## Whitingham Economic Development Group

Whitingham Municipal Center, Selectboard Office, Jacksonville, VT 05342

### **Minutes of Thursday, September 26, 2019**

Attendees: EDG Members: Gretchen Havreluk, Seth Boyd, Phil Edelstein and Jenepher Burnell. Gig Zboray, Selectboard Office Administrator. Carrie Northrup interested in becoming a member.

#### Call to Order. Additions or Changes to Agenda

Phil Edelstein called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

#### Approve Minutes of July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup> meetings

**A motion was made by Seth Boyd to approve the Minutes of July 25 and August 7, 2019 as written, seconded by Jenepher Burnell, all in favor.**

#### Critique Blueberry Festival

Wayne Wood had suggested the Fire Department should handle traffic control next year.

Greg Burnell had suggested a tent to cover the band members next year.

Gretchen Havreluk suggested doing our own advertising in the future. Perhaps put up banners on both ends of town a month in advance.

Kristine Sweeter did an excellent job! Meeting with the vendors prior to the event was great. There were unique vendors there.

Next year we should invite Mike Mandraccia and local business owners to a planning meeting.

#### Chamber Membership discussion

Last year the conversation centered around supporting the Chamber. This year we talked about what the Chamber is doing for us. No one at the table was aware of membership benefits. The item was tabled until Gretchen arrives.

#### Continue Strategic Planning Process-Identify projects:

Seth continued to lead the group in strategic planning for Economic Development in Whitingham.

The group worked on the next step, establishing action plans for the priority items that were determined at the last meeting. How do we build on our strengths and mitigate our weaknesses?

#### Chamber Membership

Now that Gretchen has arrived, we discussed Chamber membership again. As a member there should be a link on their website to our website. A benefit of town membership is that anyone on a committee of the Town would get a discount on a Mt. Snow season pass. When Seth looked at the Chamber website Whitingham was not even mentioned and we paid our dues last year. Gretchen will find out more.

Review Action Items

Gretchen will have a discussion with the Chamber.

Phil will schedule Matrix to attend our next meeting for a 15-minute presentation (see below).

Gig and Seth will work on the notes from the Strategic Planning conducted above.

Next meeting will be October 24, 2019 at 6:30pm. Chris from Matrix would like to attend either an EDG or a Selectboard meeting, EDG is OK with a 15-minute presentation by Matrix. We will continue working on the Strategic Plan.

Adjourn

Gretchen adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,

~Gig Zboray