

Enosburg Initiative Meeting- April 12, 2018

Convened at 5:35pm. Present: Linda Depatie, Stacy Carpenter, Heather Moore, Sandra Ferland, Ward Heneveld, Jennifer Bright, Jim Cameron, Suzi H Parent, Chris Casavant, Jason Doe, Angela Wright.

Better Connections Update: RFP's have gone out. Invites are out to groups to choose a member for the steering committee. Selections in May.

Bike Month- Rise VT Poster ready, events on track, bike to work, ride and lunch in the park, bike/walk to school week, bike bingo. Ads going in local papers, insert in County Courier, facebook also.

Three bike racks to give to merchants, one going to Mighty Oak by the trail.

Franklin County Rec Meeting: Group met 4/10, Erik Johnson took his thoughts to Fr. County Chamber to see if they want to administer. Chip Sawyer will write a grant for start monies. Next meeting: 5/23- Highgate Elementary School-5:30pm.

Next EFEDC meeting on 4/18-Heather Moore working diligently on USDA grants, hopefully a revolving loan fund, which will help local businesses hoping to expand or startup.

Ward Heneveld reported six students have spent a lot of time in 3D Competition, this year EFMHS group came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state. They want to prepare applications for the Quincy Hotel, Opera House and the 1906 House, and this summer the kid's work will be studied and ready for the fall in regards perhaps to Historic Markers.

Welcome Center/Kiosk/Community Center: what will it be? Planning group spoke with Paul Costello to perhaps become our facilitator-not the person for the job. Suzanne H Parent will contact a person in MA, who Costello suggested might help us. Other avenues will also be explored. Looking to see how Welcome Center might be integrated into Better Connections, not funding, but direction.

Steve Wadsworth and Sarah Downes reported on the grants they have received: Sarah for a kiosk down by the Missisquoi River, with permission, by the old diesel plant, between the plant and the road. Must speak with Village Mg. Built, in the coming fall, by students. It will also have a brochure holder, with the map the students have updated. One will be placed at the bottom of the public bulletin board that EBA has on Main St. as well, and other strategic places around town. Eventually a brochure with all businesses will be added.

Steve got a grant from the upper Missisquoi and Trout River program to purchase four kayaks and two canoes, through the generous help from The Great Outdoors, and these will be available for signouts by local folks to explore the river from the water, not just the shore. Details still need to be worked out.

Ben Maddox has offered to use his establishment for the signout center for the small parts of the gear, not the boats themselves. More work to be done. Steve will also talk to village and town about using their insurance.

Heather Moore is hard at work researching revolving loan funds and rural business grants, and working on a budget for Northern borders and USDA revolving loan fund. She is asking for letters of need from business owners as to why we need a revolving loan fund. We are looking at from 60,000 to 125,000 in loan monies, the 125 from Northern Borders. This should be a very flexible program.

Posters are going up in the school to start engaging the kids in the community. How can they related what they are learning in the classroom to real life. Shadowing programs are being worked on.

Suggestion made that E I have a presence in the Dairy Days Parade, Suzi will speak about that when she meets with the Lions this month. Betsy Dorminy is in Atlanta designing a shirt for us.

“Enosburg Initiative-it all starts here” (Penned by Guy Breault).

Art in the Park on target for May 26.

The 1906 House will host politicians on the porch for Dairy Day, a longstanding tradition.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Ferland