

# ENOSBURG INITIATIVE

MEETING #1- MARCH 3, 2017

Twenty-eight people met at The Quincy Hotel in Enosburg Falls on Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:15p.m. to discuss the economic state of the village. Interested citizens and business owners came to talk about strengths and weaknesses, and ways to help the community grow.

- 1) President of the EBA presented a brief history of the EBA, it's goals and plans.
  - a. Last year a downtown revitalization group was formed; the designated downtown center was enlarged, and this year the group is hoping to apply for a planning grant for streetscape design. Committee to convene again in early summer.
  
- 2) There was discussion at length about the fact that "many cars go through the village, but too few stop, or see a reason to stop". Comments made in a general conversation:
  - No restaurant serving breakfast in the village proper
  - Businesses not open enough, or having long enough hours
  - Some rent prices in the village too high, with Chittenden County prices being charged
  - No mainstay or anchor store downtown
  - What's the role of Municipal government in supporting existing businesses and the new developments in business community
  - Need for a grant writer
  - What might work in retail spaces.
  
- 3) It was suggested the following resources and others to be determined could help.
  - I. Regional Planning Commission
  - II. Chip Sawyer of St. Albans City
  - III. Small Business Development Center
  
- 4) All signed with email addresses to coordinate information. Any interested party is welcome to attend these meetings or get put on email list.

Actions:

Group agreed to meet in two weeks from 5:30p.m.-7p.m. at The Quincy Hotel-April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Angela Wright and Jim Cameron and other volunteers agreed to coordinate meeting with the management of Champlain Housing Trust regarding the issues regarding the empty spaces on Main Street.

Agenda for next meeting:

- 1) The group will focus on what it's concerns and ideas are that would be the focus of a meeting with the village manager, trustees/town select board in a timely manner.
  
- 2) Discussion of resources and grants known and plan of action to pursue.
  
- 3) Other items the group wishes to focus on.

Meeting set for April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30-7:00p.m. at The Quincy Hotel