

Economic Development Committee
October 5, 2015 Minutes



Adams Memorial Opera House October 17th at 7:30 PM

The Derry Economic Development Committee (EDC) met on October 5, 2015 in room 207 of the Municipal Center. Members in attendance were Tom Cardon, Al Dimmock, Mark Flattes, Terri Pastori, George Sioras, and Richard Tripp.

Meeting opened by chairman Cardon at six PM. Motion by George Sioras, second by Mark Flattes, to approve August 31, 2015 minutes as written. Motion passed.

Pinkerton Academy Collaboration – Terry Pastori mentioned committee had previously discussed dressing up the downtown through “business-urban art” by painting murals on building walls. A way of getting this done could be by seeing if any student(s) were interested in doing it. Mark Flattes thought there might be grants available through the New Hampshire Council on the Arts. Pinkerton students could also be given a work-study opportunity working at the visitor center in the Adam Memorial Opera House.

Old Business

- Tom Cardon passed around samples of brochures (history & culture, recreation, business) being developed and asked for comments on format and content. Ideas for improvement were made on the brochures. Tom will take these under consideration and bring new examples for the next meeting.
- Shepard Park – further discussion on the walking path and possible memorial. It was suggested we check with the state about them putting up a historical marker. Tom Cardon will pursue this.
- Economic Development (CCTV) – first show is scheduled for October 26 and it will focus on the EDC goals as presented to the town council.
- Business Visits – Terri Pastori and George Sioras are continuing to visit the local businesses. Main purpose is to simply touch base with them and collect feedback

on what the town can be doing to improve the business environment. It was noted the committee needs to visit businesses other than those in the downtown area.

- Press Release – first release sent to the chamber of commerce and local newspapers. We need to find other means of reaching out to the public and letting them know what we are doing.
- Facebook – The committee's facebook page (www.facebook.com/derryeconomic) is up and running thanks to Mark Flattes. Hopefully this will be one of the other means we are seeking to let the community know what the committee is up to:

New Business

- Economic Development Director – some discussion on the necessity of having an economic development director. It was determined a good starting point would be looking at what other towns are doing. Richard Tripp to research and present findings at next meeting.
- EDC – as we have lost a couple of members it was discussed whether to replace them or not. Motion by Al Dimmock, second by Tom Cardon to add two members, motion carried.
- Town Manager – Sue Hickey is sending out letters to businesses inviting them to consider coming to Derry. Town website update is ongoing.
- Downtown Beautification – several years ago an effort was made to spruce up the downtown by planting trees and replacing the streetlights. Since then nothing appears to have been done to maintain the improvements as several trees have died. Tom Cardon said he will look into this.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 22nd and we anticipate the Parkland CEO and marketing manager will be there.

Motion by George Sioras, second by Tom Cardon to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Richard Tripp
EDC Secretary