**CDC Minutes September 6, 2017**

Attending: Evan Miller, Janna Richards, Peter Dubrule, Audrey Knight, Chuck Renneker, Bob Peabody, Bob McHatton Sr., Carmen Lone, Catherine Samuels

Absent: Dave Crowell, Nelle Ely, Justin McIver, Martha Cummings, Margaret Lindsey, Phyllis Roth, Ursula Flaherty, Steve Rickert

**Priorities:**

1. Sewer & Streetscape
2. Land Use/Zoning
3. Jobs/Website/Branding
4. Housing: aesthetics, affordability, availability
5. Natural Resources

**New Business**: **250th Anniversary Celebration**

1. Audrey – trying to get a committee together to talk about what the celebration would look like. We are near the time when planning needs to happen.
2. Need to get people who are interested in working and coordinating this, and it would be good to have a person to help with higher level of development. John Saliva first brought up this idea. Try to staff with the event committee.
3. What is the 250 year celebrating? When the first land was granted in 1768 by the Massachusetts General Court to Moody Bridges and a group of proprietors.
4. Evan feels we should hire a big act to get a lot of attention and be memorable. Bob McHatton thinks that could be possible and that it might be good to hire a professional event planning organization.
5. Event committee would have to decide: what’s time frame, venue, involve school system, history, year round or one weekend event?
6. Massive event with outside organization/company
7. Don’t do it at all?
8. Maybe we use the history for a narrative of why we need a new septic/streetscape
9. Casco raised money by creating a calendar, coins, books, xmas ornaments, special events in diff areas of town.
10. It was agreed that this should be championed by people, organizations, and businesses in the community and not be the responsibility of the Community Development Director. Bridgton Historical Society has been talking about this and would be excited to assist with coordinating the event.

**Old Business**

**Update: Employer Survey – Audrey**

1. Survey completed, Sue Mercer will do Survey Monkey. 100 are free. Chamber only has member emails,
2. Chuck has list of 520 businesses, 7 years late,r 600 businesses, about 1/3 have emails,
3. Chuck suggests we have a question survey on the town website. Looks at sales tax data over last 6 years increase of 70%. One source is prop tax, for business and equipment,
4. Get survey online and on town website. Will check with Sue Mercer if she has sent out on Chamber of Commerce.
5. We can send out postcards to businesses to have them do survey.

**Update: Medical Expansion Zone**

1. Audrey – Status is that they are exploring idea of expansion on their land, still in ideation stage. Corporate supports, done market research and believe it would be viable.

2. Drawings of the concept would be as a campus

 They know targets and audiences, do know market gaps.

3. Zoning would enable to market to investors and so medical investors can invest without public processes. T hey want that surety from town.

 Land Use looking at the plan which is designated as residential.

4. Audrey wants to know the scale of the project. Roads, infrastructure. Asking for phasing, technically High St is an arterial to and from town. They will write a letter for waste water(ww), relying on ww, cannot expand without municipal ww.

1. Getting scope from corporate for how possible, CMMC is corporate. Consolidating or is there a market gap, and they don’t want a competitor to move in. Competing is actively happening now. Competing medical center, Stevens Hospital is canvassing people in Bridgton, especially the 50+ age group, and has some doctors who were in Bridgton.
2. Chuck looked at the 40 acres, and it is buildable. They were aware of Stevens and Memorial in North Conway. Idea to have many specialties in one place instead of spread out. How would the campus affect the charming aspects of the area? But the building would be behind the hospital. Land Use committee can make ruling, recommendations on the historic charm and new business, and how to design, 24-7 campus with lights and infrastructure needed.
3. Bob Peabody feels that the hospital is a destination place for the future, and has to be done right. Chuck - Bridgton and Rumford are profitable.

Update: Septic/Streetscape

1. We need problem statements – What is problem with what you have? Failed septic. We need accounts of what is problematic so we can get up to 45% funding.

2. And we need a survey of what is the average town income?

Update: SAD 61 Public Perception Effort

1. Evan met Steven Morse, the new Headmaster for the Vocational School. He will attend a meeting, and introduce a student who may work with Wayne at the BN.

2. Janna did training to help with student/teacher relationships. Janna would like to show positive things in the school. Test scores are now optional when applying to college. Ivy Leagues are looking at service in the community.

**Update: Business/Rec Dept**

1. Gary Colello is interested in the youth tour after school, maybe for middle school, once or twice a month. Parents will be motivated if kids are gong to learn something.
2. Will need a bus for possibly maybe 12 kids. Steve Rickert and Peter Dubrule from CDC will keep in touch with Gary on this project.
3. Magic Lantern, Howell Laboratories, Town Offices, are examples of places for students to visit.
4. An agenda for student visits, questions for businesses done by Peter to Gary. Pictures and notes about the visits.

5. Webinar.com used around world for various things, will help with sign ups. Program sends out emails to cancel games, etc. Hancock may be first tour.

6. We want kids to see that there are jobs besides service jobs.

Peter – New library director doing a great job. Maybe she should join us at one of our meetings. They are an important part of community.

Evan talked to Middle School about an afterschool program like reading to kids at library.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Samuels