

Whitingham Economic Development Group

Whitingham Municipal Center, Selectboard Office, Jacksonville, VT 05342

**Minutes of** **Tuesday, November 28, 2017**

Attendees: Gretchen Havreluk, Phil Edelstein and Gig Zboray. Kyle Frey attended briefly by telephone. Jenepher Burnell arrived at approximately 8:40am.

Gretchen called the meeting to order at 7:30am.

Approval of September and October 2017 Minutes: **A motion was made by Gretchen to correct the spelling of her last name and then to approve the Minutes of September and October 2017, seconded by Phil, all in favor with Kyle casting his vote by telephone.**

Historic Tour Brochure: The map was finalized by Jeff Nugent of WRC. Phil expressed his disappointment that the map didn’t include all roads in town. The town is square shaped, the only way to put it on the rectangle shape of the brochure is to cut off some areas of town. This brochure in particular is focused on a tour route mostly around VT Route 100, so all the perimeter roads are not necessary. Minor changes to the text were made. Jenepher suggested changing the “Mapsite #\_” to an actual number in a circle as used on the map itself. Gig will contact Jeff to discuss how to do this.

Whitingham Village Center Designation Renewal Application review: Gretchen reviewed and edited the preliminary map and Gig will notify Jeff Nugent to make changes. EDG did a thorough review of the application and Gig will finalize it for submission.

Connectivity: Gretchen and Phil attended the Connectivity Summit on November 1st, both were disappointed that most of the information provided was over a year old. Representative Laura Sibilia noted that the state is not going to help anymore, towns need to take connectivity into their own hands.

Phil has been working with Dan Purjes and VTel to put a VTel tower on Purjes land that would potentially provide service to the Whitingham Village area and into Readsboro. Phil noted that VTel has been working on roaming with other carriers. Phil has also been staying on top of First Net, a nationwide wireless first responder network to be built by AT&T.

Town Report: The group reviewed the draft of the EDG annual report for inclusion in Town Report. Changes were made, Gig will finalize and send out to the group for review.

Budget for FY 2018-2019: The group decided to request a budget of $4,000 for fiscal year 18/19. The increase will allow funds to build up to cover costs associated with a landscape design project that WEDG would like done for the entrance way to the Municipal Center lot. The design work would probably be contracted in the fiscal year 19/20 for a cost of $7,000-8,000.

CEDS Update: The group reviewed the CEDS Project Update for Flood Hazard Mitigation in Jacksonville Village. One typo was corrected. Gig will submit the update.

Next meeting: is scheduled for December 26, 2017 at 7:30am. Due to the holiday it might be rescheduled.

River Corridors public meeting Wednesday, November 29th at 6pm in the Selectboard Office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52am.

Respectfully submitted,

 ~Gig Zboray