

Lanesborough Economic Development Committee
January 6, 2021 – Held remotely by ZOOM due to COVID-19 Pandemic
Minutes

Attendance: Present: Barb Hassan, Chairperson. Members: David Vogel, Kevin Towle, Tom Voisin, Pat Hubbard and Laura Brennan, a Representative from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

- 1). Meeting was Called to Order at 5:17pm.
- 2). The minutes of the December 2, 2020 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Kevin Towle and seconded by Pat Hubbard to approve the minutes as written.
- 3). Review Status of Agenda Items from December 2, 2020.
Barb Hassan noted that all the agenda items from the last meeting were continued on this agenda which eliminated the need to review agenda items at this time.
- 4). Booklet to Assist New Lanesborough Businesses
Pat thanked Kevin for sending out a copy of the booklet used by the Town of Adams. He noted that it was not developed for use by the public, but for the exclusive use by town employees. Pat described her vision of the Lanesborough publication that would be distributed to new businesses moving into Lanesborough and agreed to have an outline of the proposed booklet ready for the next meeting.
- 5). PACE Community Update
Laura Brennan reported that she arranged a meeting for Julie from Mass Development and Kelli Robbins, Lanesborough Town Manager to discuss the process of Lanesborough becoming a PACE community. The Select Board have to agree to having Lanesborough become a PACE community and then commercial property owners could access the program.
- 6). Tour De Greylock – Lanesborough Signature Outdoor Recreation Event
Laura contacted Mackenzie Greer at the Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC) to get further details about the proposed bridge from Laston Park to Constitution Hill, as the bridge project has been proposed as a possible recipient of any profit from the Tour De Greylock event.

Laura shared a map of the area that outlined the area. Approximately \$200,00-\$400,000 is needed for the construction of the bridge and new trails. Currently, there are no specific plans for the bridge or the trails. Tom Voisin reaffirmed his interest in developing a network mountain bike trails as that is a very popular and lucrative outdoor recreation opportunity in North Kingdom, VT. Laura agreed to follow-up with Mackenzie to see if mountain bikes were allowed on the property.

A discussion was held about the profits from the event and where the funds would be held until such time as enough money was raised to actually complete this project. It was determined that it did not make sense to establish yet another 501C3 when BNRC may be able to hold the funds. Pat asked about how long BNRC would hold designated funds. She also indicated that Mt. Greylock Campsite Park would be willing to hold the funds in a designated account.

Laura indicated that the Town, BNRC and Mass Trails could work collaboratively on a planning grant for the project and even a small amount of money raised at the event might be enough to provide any required matching funds for a planning grant. There is also the potential for this project to be a part of The High Road Project.

The sharing of proposed logos for the event was postponed to a future agenda.

7). Scheduling of the Next Meeting
Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 5:15pm via Zoom

8.) Adjournment
A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Pat to adjourn the meeting at 5:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Patricia Hubbard, Recording Secretary