Economic Resource Committee Minutes May 16, 2018

Present: Ethan Bogar, Curtis Hunter, Earnest Levesque, Kyle Pratt, Deb Shelby, Sue Sinnamon, Alison Smith and guests Robin Katrick and Johanna

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 with a quorum present.

2. Additions/deletions to the agenda – none


4. Approval of Minutes March 20, 2018 – A motion was make by Deb and seconded by Ethan to approve the minutes as written. All were in favor.

5. Appointment – Robin Katrick – Rise VT – Robin explained briefly that Rise VT is an organization that works with towns to embrace healthier lifestyles. They have chosen three towns in Chittenden County to work with: Richmond, Huntington and Bolton. She will work with them to figure out their priorities and how Rise VT can help them. In the next couple weeks she is planning on organizing a meeting to bring together key leaders in Bolton in Richmond. She had heard positive comments from Bolton townspeople about the Bolton Community Fair and is at the meeting to find out more about it and offer assistance from Rise VT.

6. General Business
   a. Community Fair updates final date
      i. Date for Community Fair – Sept 1 – Labor Day Weekend – After some discussion about the pros and cons of having the BCF on Labor Day Weekend a motion was made by Deb and seconded by Curtis to approve the date of September 1 for this year’s BCF. All were in favor. Another motion was made by Curtis and seconded by Allison to run the event from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All were in favor.
      ii. Disc Golf Challenge (Vista Beast), and then a concert to end the evening – One of the reasons the committee decided to approve the date of September 1 was that they felt having it the same day
as the Disc Golf Challenge and concert would bring more people to Bolton Valley and consequently to the BCF.

iii. **Banner to hang in town** – We are looking at hanging a banner at the foot of Bolton Valley Access Road. Deb will get the needed approvals.

iv. **3 Signs Update** – Earnest has gotten approval from Greensea Systems, Inc. at the corner of Bridge Street and Route 2 in Richmond to hang a sign on their property advertising the BCF. He is also working on approval for one in Waterbury. Earnest also mentioned that he has spoken to Alyssa Johnson the Economic Development Director in Waterbury and that she is interested in attending one of our meetings. He will invite her.

v. **List of local businesses to contact and letter to send – who is doing this?** Allison volunteered to email a letter to past vendors informing them of the date of the event this year and inviting them to attend. Deb will draft a letter and send it to Allison along with the vendor contact information so that the vendors can be contacted by May 25 and asked to respond by mid-June.

vi. **Business Donations – plan and goals** – Deb reminded the committee that we don’t charge vendors for their space and receive no money from the town so we have no committee funds to buy anything for the BCF. She does not want committee members spending their own money like they have in years past. She suggested asking businesses for donations for the miscellaneous items we might need. There was discussion regarding how we would award the raffle prizes this year. It was decided that for the three major prizes we would have three separate boxes for the raffle tickets again this year. Deb will contact last year’s major prize donators and ask them if they would be willing to donate again. Alison suggested we might consider a Silent Action for most of the rest of the prizes donated from various businesses. (The exception to this would be for the BINGO prizes which would be prizes that kids would like such as a gift certificate for pizza.) All the committee was in agreement with Alison’s suggestion and thought it was an excellent idea. Curtis and Earnest will again work to obtain raffle prizes. Deb will ask Amy for a letter again from the town for them to have with
them to let the businesses know we are a legitimate event. The committee agreed that we would again give the raffle proceeds to the Bolton Fire Department and the Senior Dinners.

vii. **PR plan for business and then for Attendance** – Natasha Bogar who helped out with PR last year has agreed to help us this year. Robin Katrick said that Rise VT could also help out with this and there might possibly be a small amount of grant money available for advertising. She is willing to help us out with this. Deb will put her in contact with Natasha so they can work together.

b. **Gazette Article for June** – Deb suggested that this article be an overview about and purpose of the Bolton Community Fair, with a focus on asking kids to be involved in BCF by coming up with an idea for a business and showcasing it as a vendor at the BCF. Curtis volunteered to write this article before the middle of next week.

7. **Communications**
   a. **Building a Sense of Place – June 14** – Deb emailed info to the committee but no one is able to attend.
   b. **www.VTROCKS.net June 24** – Tony Barbagallo is organizing this fundraising event for community member Darlene Autery who is fighting lymphoma.

8. **Agenda for next meeting** – We will keep all items under 6. a. Community Fair except for item i. and ii.

9. **Adjournment** – A motion was made at 7:14 by Curtis and seconded by Deb to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Submitted:  

Approved:  

Date: 6/20/18

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