Town of Bolton Economic Resource Committee
Wednesday, November 20, 2019
585 Notch Road

Draft Minutes

Present: Deb Shelby, Sue Sinnamon and Allison Smith. Guest: Ed Sinnamon

1. **Call to Order:** The Meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.
2. **Additions/Deletions to Agenda:** Vermont Rocks 2020 was added.
3. **Public Comment:** Ed said he felt the Bolton Community Fair was very successful, everyone worked hard and all the new changes that were made worked.
4. **Approval of Minutes October 16, 2019:** Allison made a motion that was seconded by Deb to approve the minutes as written. All were in favor.
5. **General Business:**
   a. **Community Fair Review:**

   Deb reported that we spent $860.87 out of the $1,000 grant we received from RiseVT leaving us a balance of $139.13. We raised $1,083 from our raffle and silent auction.

   The committee was asked to comment on the things that we did that we felt helped with the success of the event. Following is what was mentioned:

   * Partnering with the Energy Committee brought in more people and helped with marketing the event.
   * Having Smilie School host the event gave us a central community location, the gym gave us plenty of space for the vendors, a classroom worked well for the Energy Workshops, the art room was great for entertaining the kids and the kitchen area was perfect for letting the parents association provide refreshments for everyone while making money for their group.
   * Having the UVM ZEST singers, which RiseVT arranged for us, sing a few acapella numbers near the end of the event.
   * The appearance of Lt. Governor Zuckerman and having him present t-shirts to the children who participated in the art contest.
   * The new time frame of 12-4.
* Having the principle come to the event, have positive things to say about it but wondering why Smilie children weren’t participating. (One of our goals we have been unsuccessful in has been to try to get the participation of the Smilie School children and the committee is hopeful this will encourage it to happen in the future.)
* Having the assistance and support of our Town Clerk Amy Grover and our Assistant Town Clerk Carol Devlin.
* Having other town people support us such as Kat Devlin for doing face painting and art projects with the kids, Juliette Juillerat and the Energy Committee, Amy Ludwin and the Conservation Commission, Eric and Debbie Andrews for bringing us tables from the firehouse for vendor use and the many other townspeople that assisted us and made this a community event.
* A great new logo designed by Julie Longstreth for the event.
* RiseVT’s grant that helped us purchase banners, free treats for vendors and participants, Community Fair T-shirts and other items for the event.
* The amazing artwork donated by local artists Natasha Bogar, Rob Mullen and Kara Ware helped increase our Silent Auction revenue as well as the other great prizes from community businesses that were solicited by committee members Curtis Hunter and Chip Levesque.
* Having the four major prizes again for the raffle: the cord of wood from Kyle Pratt, the ski pass from Bolton Valley Resort, the round of golf from West Bolton Golf Club and the gravel from Varin’s Gravel Pit with delivery by Gene Armstrong.
* The ads on Facebook.
* The bouncy house from Sun Common.

The Committee was asked to comment on what we could have done better and possible conflicts with how we are doing things. Following are things that were mentioned:
* We did not do as well as we have in the past selling raffle tickets for the major prizes.
* We would like to be able to have a better idea of the number of attendees. Perhaps we should have someone out in the lobby with a “clicker” counting the people as they come in.
* There was a complaint from a vendor that the Smilie Association selling food interfered with their food sales.
*Do we limit our vendors to “cottage industry” ones or do we include, as we have in the past, Bolton residents who sell “national” products as a home-based business?*

* We really need committee members on the ERC who have children to be involved in planning the Bolton Community Fair so we have better access to school resources and teachers so in the future we might be able to have performances by Smilie School children at the event.

**Gazette Article for December:** Deb volunteered to write the article reporting on the Bolton Community Fair.

6. **New Members:** None

7. **Communications:** None

8. **Agenda for next meeting in February:** Meet with the Energy Committee to discuss how we will move forward.

9. **Vermont Rocks 2020:** After all the work involved in putting on the Bolton Community Fair, the committee decided they need a break and voted not to participate in Vermont Rocks 2020.

10. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Deb and seconded by Sue to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Sinnamon

__________________________________________ Date___________

Chair/Co-Chair

__________________________________________ Date___________