

Minutes
Economic Development Committee
Town Manager's Office
August 23, 2018
2:00pm

Attendance

Councilors:

Cody McEwen (Chair)

Mike Madore

Gilda Stratton

Steve Golieb

Louis Pelletier

John Davis (Town Manager)

Public:

Kelly Ryder

Meeting called to order by Chair McEwen at 2:00pm.

Discussion on the Town of Millinocket Annual Survey:

Discussion was opened by a review of the previous years survey materials. The committee began discussing if there were any initial formatting or specific question changes needed going forward. The committee decided the following: There was overall approval to use the same format with possible question changes in the future; that any questions that may have been suggested in the survey process from last year would be compiled and distributed to the committee, as well as there being at least one public workshop for input which will be scheduled during either September or October; the same timeframe will be in place for this years survey — surveys will be ready to be distributed on November 20th, 2018 and will be accepted via paper or online until December 31st, 2018.

The group discussed how distribution could be improved. It is planned that the same three locations of the Town Office, Our Katahdin, and the Millinocket Memorial Library will be used to fill you out paper surveys. Other locations such as Katahdin Federal Credit Union and Hannaford were suggested. Using methods such as the town facebook page, local paper, and radio station for advertising will be implemented for this year.

Discussion on grants:

Discussion was opened by review of the 2018 Program Statement from the State of Maine Office of Community Development - Community Development Block Grant Program. It was agreed that although deadlines for the various programs have all passed, now is the time to start planning for the next round of grants. Possible programs fall under community development or economic development and include: housing assistance, home repair network, public infrastructure, downtown revitalization, public service, small business development, urgent need, special projects, economic development, micro-enterprise assistance, and underground storage tank. The committee briefly reviewed some program guidelines and decided at the next meeting they would look to focus on a project goal and which program would be most appropriate.

A major point of discussion was the main street side walk infrastructure including access to buildings for ADA compliance. The last side walk and water line replacement on the main street was in the 80's. The committee also discussed other methods of aesthetic improvements to the main street such as building facade and updating banners.

The next meeting for the economic development committee is scheduled for September 13, 2018 at 2:00pm in the Town Manager's office.

Economic Development Committee

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 pm