

## **Economic Development Update**

June 5, 2012

### **Telecommunications**

#### Fairpoint (Broadband to East Dover)

I have spoken with Beth Fastiggi regarding completion of Zone 3 and she indicates that it should be completed by mid to late June. This is consistent with approximately 4 months since the the agreement was signed to initiate the work.

#### Cell Service

Nothing new to report.

#### VTEL

Nothing to update.

#### eVermont

#### *Wi Fi Hotspots*

We have installed all 4 repeaters at the following locations:

Deerfield Valley Real Estate

North Real Estate

Four Seasons Inn

Chadwicks

Steve Ligett, the site engineer, determined that the signal emanating from North Real Estate was able to reach the Four Seasons Inn and subsequently all the way to Chadwicks. This is beneficial in 2 ways. Firstly, it reduces the number of repeaters we need to cover the 1 mile proposed zone and secondly, because each repeater cuts the signal strength, having fewer repeaters reduced the number of Internet injection points along the zone. We were originally going to place a repeater at the Town Offices, but the one at Deerfield Valley Real Estate can be seen from the front of the Town Offices building. If you look at the settings portion of your device, you will find an open Internet connection called Free Dover WiFi (at least that's the name for now). We have also secured the domain name discoverdoververmont.com and recently got the portal code to install. We are also connected to the administrative software which will allow us to monitor how many users of the zone there are, how much bandwidth, time, downloadable data they receive.

The next leg of the zone will put us at the Andirons where we will have Fairpoint install another Internet injection point. We have also gotten some quotes from sign companies to place along the zone to notify the public of the zone's existence. Interestingly, savvy users have already found the connection.

### *Laptop Computer*

As I mentioned at the last meeting, we had an opportunity to get a free laptop as part of the eVermont grant. I filled out the necessary paperwork, got the appropriate approval and purchased the laptop. It has arrived and will verify when we can expect payment from eVermont.

### **Website**

We will begin to install and configure the portal. The objective is to use this as the business section in conjunction with the website. We will bring before the board issues and opportunities that it presents such as charging for advertising space. Once this gets established, we will make a recommendation regarding the existing website.

### **Trails**

The Interpretive Signs have been installed along the valley trail. We will be identifying mechanisms to promote the signs.

### **Beautification**

The flower barrels are installed at their designated location. The American Flags are also installed around town.

We are awaiting an installation date for the 12-14 foot Frazier Fir at the West Dover Fire Department to replace the temporary.

The first public meeting on the Landscape Architecture proposals was held at the Town Hall. The attendance was excellent, the presentation was well received and many positive comments were made by Dover residents. Lamoureux & Dickinson, the landscape architects will assimilate these comments and refine their suggestions for a second public meeting. No date has been determined as yet. The plans are available on the website within the Economic Development Department (<http://www.doververmont.com/economic-development>). Anyone who has been to the landscape architecture public meeting should realize that implementation of these plans will be a multi-year endeavor and need funding from multiple sources including future economic development 1% options taxes.

### **Marketing**

The amounts for the DASP remain as follows:

DASP quarter 2 is fully funded and the deadline for quarter 3 has passed with \$185.32 remaining. This amount will be added to quarter 4, 2012 to boost the available amount to \$2059.32 for quarter 4, 2012. Quarter 1, 2013 still has \$2586.50 available. Interest seems to have waned for this program on the part of many business owners. I have personally spoken with several of them and asked why they have not applied since they advertise every week. There is never an answer given.

### **Events**

There are no new events to be considered.

### **Venue**

Nothing new to report.

### **Financial**

To be handed out at the meeting.

### **FEMA**

The Recovery Partner's Meeting held May 2<sup>nd</sup> was disappointing at best. Very few partners were interested in Telecommunications (my assigned project). The good news however, is that we got an extensive list of agencies where grants are available. This can be used for numerous projects such as follow-on to landscape architecture initiative along Route 100 and the Town Common.