

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

August 1, 2014

Revenue

Nothing new to report.

Beautification

10 additional American flags were purchased with Economic Development funds at a cost of \$477. These flags will be put up in East Dover.

Events

We have spent \$64,694.95 on events for FY 2013 – 2014. This is currently \$25,694.95 over budget or 165.88%.

We have just received the summery report for the 2013 – 2014 Mother's for Daughters' Motorcycle Ride. We will evaluate the report and issue the appropriate payments.

No funds have been spent or allocated for the 2014 – 2015 fiscal year.

Summer Concerts in the Park

The park concerts have been very successful up to this point. The Butterfly Swing Band generated approximately 50 – 60 attendees. The Lonesome Brothers generated approximately 70 – 80 attendees and the Peter Miles Band generated approximately 100+ attendees. The observations that were made during the performance include:

- Attendees drift in and out during the performance
- When the band takes a break, some attendees leave
- Drums are necessary for the performance
- Upbeat music keeps the interest of the audience
- If we should encounter a brief shower during the performance, many attendees leave
- Some attendees stop at the park because they hear the music and see the crowd
- Other activities took place during the performance that added to the festivities include:
 - Dancing
 - Hacky Sack Playing
 - Beach Ball Volleys

The final concert of the season is on August 3rd.

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Marketing

DASP

FY '13 – '14

To date the 11 DASP applicants received a total of \$7782.96. Businesses have applied for a total of \$13,997.54. This represents only 58.3% of the total funds allocated, if we give out everything that was applied for.

FY '14 – '15

To date 12 applicants have applied for \$20,831.80 of the \$24,000 in DASP funding. No funds were distributed for the current fiscal year. The increased usage is partly attributable to increasing the rebate to 40% and the use of digital marketing in the greater Boston area.

Do-It

FY '13 – '14

All of the applicants have completed their projects and a total of \$31,669.91 has been paid. No additional monies are due for the '13 – '14 fiscal year.

FY '14 – '15

16 businesses have applied for and received Do-It funding. An error in the total cost column has allowed an additional applicant to be accepted into the program. It is the recommendation that this extremely popular program be increased by \$2,500 to \$38,500 to accommodate this mistake.

Valley Cohesive Marketing & Branding

The Steering committee continues to meet with Arnett & Muldrow to produce final reports.

Bi-Town

Nothing new to report. The next meeting is August 7th.

Telecommunications

We are looking at some alternatives to fix the wireless zone mesh now that Layla's has turned off their electricity to the front sign at various intervals during the day. There are 2 approaches being considered. The first is to run Cat 6 wire from the repeater underground to an outlet inside the building. The cost of this is \$300. The second is to install repeaters at Palmiter Realty Group and an additional repeater at the north end of the Mount Snow Marketplace. In conversations with Justin McCoart, the Layla's approach is the most feasible. Justin is waiting to do some installation in Wilmington at the same time. It should be another few weeks for this to happen.

Website

eBusiness Technology is working on the Google Search capability. I do not have a definitive end date yet but anticipate this in the next few weeks. I did sign up for 20,000 queries from Google with a credit card. When the town gets the card, I can use that to increase the number of queries.

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I have issued 2 new id's to Jeannette Eckert and Andy McLean to allow them to update the website for the purpose of complying with the new open meeting law. Jeannette has already updated several agendas and minutes and has caught on quickly. I am available to train and assist with the tasks as needed. The Web Coordinator position is currently being re-evaluated.

Trails

Dover/Wilmington Trail:

The 2 kiosks that the town highway department was unable to install because their equipment was too heavy, has been installed by W&B Maintenance. W&B used a mini excavator for this task. The first kiosk that they did was located at the Dover town line on Handle Road. This took a small amount of time to accomplish. The second kiosk is located at a spot called "four corners". This spot is at the intersection of Sherwood Forest, Friar Tuck, Lionheart and the exit heading west to Handle Road. Although it was relatively easy to get the excavator to that spot, W&B hit ledge when they tried to install the kiosk. Instead of digging 4 feet down, they were only able to get 2 feet down. I met with them during this period and we agreed to add some horizontal legs and cross braces to stabilize the kiosk in the shallow area. This took a fair amount of time and was the only practical decision given that the excavator was already in position and the cost to use it had already incurred. The cost to do the entire installation of the 2 kiosks was \$1530. This brought the original allocation of the Dover/Wilmington Trail to \$5,765.14 or \$765.14 over the \$5,000 budget. As we continue with the marketing of the trail, we can discuss additional budgetary increases.

Valley Trail A:

We have gotten tentative approval from Vtrans for most of our "Right of Way" phase. There is just one more hurdle of a driveway easement that Vtrans requires. The current plan shows the trail going straight across the state right of way and not diverting in front of the Town Offices or the Congregational Church. In addition we have eliminated the curbing on the west side of the road starting at the historical society and going south. A bicycle lane will be added to the west side of Route 100 and the conduits for the street lights are included in the plan. As a reference, the 4 street lights at the Dover Park cost \$12,171, without installation. We will estimate the cost of street lights for the entire sidewalk length as the project proceeds.

To date we have spent \$89,658 of the \$118,208 engineering study.

The updated cost estimate for the project, without any appraisals, payments to property owners or street lights, is listed below.

Revenue

Trail "A" account	\$375,459.28
Federal Grant	\$300,000.00
Total	\$675,459.28

Expenses

Current Construction Estimate	\$449,586
State Suggested Contingency	\$44,958

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Resident Engineer	\$89,917
Remaining L&D Engineering	\$28,550
Total	\$613,011
Project Credit	\$62,448

Valley Trail A Minus: Dorr Fitch to Tollgate Village

The Town of Dover has applied for a 90%/10% Bicycle/Pedestrian grant to the Vermont AOT in the amount of \$324,380. This is for the construction of the Valley Trail sidewalk and related bridge from Dorr Fitch Rd to Tollgate Village (known as section A-). Decisions are expected sometime in mid August of this year.

ValleyTrail B Plus: Mountain Park Plaza to Stugger Rd:

The Town of Dover has also applied for a 90%/10% Scoping Study to the Vermont AOT in the amount of \$33,000. This is to determine the feasibility on continuing a path along the state right of way from Mountain Park Plaza to Stugger Rd (known as B+). Decisions are expected sometime in mid August of this year.

Venue

On July 21, 2014, we received an email from Angela Repella of the New England District of the US Army Corps of Engineers. She indicated that in doing a spot check, the playground at the Dover Park was impacting a wetland area. The Vermont wetlands map does not indicate any wetlands area at that location. We spoke with Roger Dickinson and he had his wetlands specialist call Angela Repella. We were advised to fill out and submit a "Category 1 Self Verification Form" due to the fact that the impacted area was only 1510 ft². I spoke with Katrina Sedney at the Army Corps of Engineer's office, where the form is to be sent. She told me that the submission of the form was all that is required. I will inform the board in a separate email should any additional issues arise.

Financial

Full statements are included under separate cover.