

Economic Development Update

August 6, 2013

Telecommunications

Wi Fi Hotspots

We have elected to contract Up and Running Computer to complete the Dover wireless zone. This decision was made for the following reasons:

- Price
- Experience in installing the zone in Woodstock
- Their ability to acquire 1 free access point with license from VDEP
- Personal contact and discussion with the company during our visit to Woodstock

We had a few glitches along the way. For some reason, Up and Running did not have any liability insurance. The explanation was that no one ever asked for it. This was corrected by them and they also signed a hold harmless agreement with the town.

In a meeting with Cliff Duncan, he agreed to install a gateway at One More Time to service that area in and around the park. This gives us better connectivity in that his bandwidth is much more robust than Fairpoint. We reviewed the controls that the Meraki system offered and that impressed Cliff that we could effectively control the environment. His price to install is a one time \$104.39 and a monthly charge of \$39.95. In addition, Duncan Cable offered to reduce the monthly cost to \$29.95 if we would pay for 1 year in advance and put an ad on the splash page of the zone as well as the town website. I think he is referring to the portal site (www.discoverdovervt.com). I am not in favor of putting ads on the town website. His proposal is under review.

Website

I will be looking to put together a small committee to evaluate the town website, www.doververmont.com in relation to the portal website www.discoverdovervt.com. We have a prototype of a new town website including a search capability.

Trails

We are putting together a justification paper along with Nona to ask the state to include a pedestrian and bicycle path when they replace the VT 100 Bridge over the North Branch of the Deerfield River. The state is currently in their scoping phase and it could be several years until construction begins. There is no guarantee that the state will include the walkway.

We have obtained permission from Mount Snow to use their land adjacent to Handle Road just north of the town line that will connect to Mount Snow's Sherwood Forest trail that

interconnects with the Crosstown Trail into Kingswood and up to Mount Snow. The Bi-Town committee has agreed on signs for the trail and a complete map will be installed along the trail heads as well as availability of paper maps.

Beautification

We have received the additional Skip Morrow banners and they will be installed as soon as possible.

Marketing

We had 6 applicants for the FY '13 – '14 DASP program through July totaling \$6,962.50 or 29% of the total appropriation.

We have received 3 invoices from the Do-It program for the FY 2012-2013. This is 25% of the applicants for the program. The deadline for completion of the projects is October 31, 2013.

The Do-It program for FY 2013-2014 has \$128.09 still available with the inclusion of the additional \$7600 allocated by the Selectboard at the last meeting.

Events

The Events program statistics remain unchanged from last month:

For the FY 2012/2013, we have spent \$47,258 against a budget of \$66,000, leaving a remaining total of \$18,742. That results in utilizing 71.6% of the events budget for FY '12 – '13.

For the FY 2013/2014 we have committed \$19,812 against a budget of \$39,000, leaving a remaining total of \$19,188. That results in commitments of 50.8% of the events budget for FY '13 – '14.

The Adventure Challenge statistics, to date are as follows:

Participants: 852

Room Nights Sold: 752

Direct Room Revenue: \$50,640

Anticipated Revenue: (852 participants x 2 nights each x \$116 per day [state of VT number excluding lodging]) + \$50,640 in measurable lodging = \$248,304

Funds back to Dover via 1% tax: \$2,483

Percentage of reclaimed funds as a function of grant allocation: $(\$2,483/\$9,951.50) = 25\%$

Multiplier of anticipated revenue against of grant allocation: $(\$248,304/9,951.50) = 25$ times grant

Venue

The construction of the Dover Park is well underway. Completed to date are:

- Electrical and water conduits
- Well pump and pressure tank
- Shed
- Playground
- Gazebo

Upcoming dates (approximate) include:

- Fence along Route 100 (on or about Aug 7)
- Street Lights (week of Aug 5, unconfirmed)
- Landscaping (week of Aug 12)
- Sod (week of Aug 19)

The total estimated costs for the project are \$130,236.04. To date we have spent \$68,330.94

Future committee meetings will be ad hoc as situations occur.

This is the Dover Park Sign:



Bi-Town

A CEDS document is being prepared for the August 9 deadline to include the L&D Landscaping project.

Revenue

Nothing new to report.

Financial

Full statements are included under separate cover.