

Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Economic Development Committee meeting on June 8, 2021

(This meeting was correctly posted)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approve agenda
4. Approve minutes: 5/11/21
5. Public Input
6. DCEDC update
7. Discussion and possible action: committee appointment update
8. Review of Town Comprehensive Plan
9. Development of Economic Strategy for Business Growth
10. Create structure for co-op and RFP for attainable housing on the Val-A property
11. Future meeting
12. Adjourn

Chair John Lowry called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Committee members Chuck Scheckel, and David Studebaker were present along with Clerk/Treasurer Anastasia Bell, and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Doug Curzon. Committee member Andrew Gantman was excused and there is one vacancy.

Lowry moved, Studebaker second to approve the agenda as posted. Passed 3-0.

Lowry moved, Scheckel second to approve the 5/11/21 minutes as presented. Passed 3-0.

Public – None.

DCEDC Update – Steve Jenkins reported that the broadband survey is underway, and the report will be used to steer the implementation. Investigation continues regarding the affordable housing fund structure and the priorities of public input, land, funding, maintenance of affordability over time, and creating a replicable model for other communities are essential for success have been determined. Septic systems may be possible if they are approved by the state for multi-unit use. Studebaker noted that public-private ventures for broadband usually result in the public entity coordinating and potentially owning the assets while the private entity becomes the service provider.

Committee Appointments – Lowry noted he has received information on a prospective member and will reach out to them before the next meeting. He noted that Technology and Economic Development are very much related at this time and asked for consideration of combining these Town Committees. It was the consensus that while the two are part and parcel of each other they are still largely separate at this time, it would be beneficial to hold joint meetings quarterly. The first tentative date for a joint meeting was set for Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Comprehensive Plan – None.

Economic Strategy for Business Growth – It was noted that creating this plan may assist to keep the affordable housing project going. The following business types were noted for potential expansion within Liberty Grove:

- Small manufacturers
- Professional services
- Home-based businesses
- Secondary locations for an already established business

The next step should be to determine an appropriate location. It was the consensus to have this as the only topic of the next agenda.

RFP and co-op Structure – None.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Lowry moved, Scheckel second to adjourn at 8:38pm. Passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Anastasia Bell, Clerk/Treasurer

Approved at the 7/20/21 Economic Development Committee meeting.