

Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting

Monday, February 10, 2020

5:30 PM

Bucksport Town Office (Council Chambers)

Minutes

1. Roll Call:

- A. Present: Mark Eastman, Frank Dunbar, Jim Morrison, Ron Russell, and Rob Carmichael.
- B. Absent: John Wardwell, John Paul LaLonde, Kathy Downes, Jim Boothby, and Daphne Eyerer

2. Approval of January 2020 Minutes:

- A. Rob made a motion to accept the minutes. Frank seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes passed 5-0.

3. Public Comment for items not on the agenda

- A. No public comment.

4. Review the RFP's for the Marketing/Branding Campaign

- A. We ended up receiving 10 proposals for the marketing/branding RFP. Due to the proposals being due by 5:30 the committee didn't have time to review them. It was determined that the committee would email Rich with their rankings of the proposals and the committee would meet on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 5:30pm to finalize who would be interviewed.

5. Set interviews for Marketing/Branding Campaign Finalists

- A. The committee will meet on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 5:30pm to finalize those who would be interviewed with interviews happening via Zoom, Skype, and phone or in person.

6. Revisions/edits to the previously discussed Business Grant Program

- A. Ron suggests we give out the grant money on a first come, first serve basis unless we come up with some criteria.
- B. Mark asked if we could open the funding up sooner than January 2021. Mark asked if there were parameters that the money could be used for. Rich informed him that some communities chose to do facades, signs, siding, etc.

- C. Rich said there was no rush in finalizing the grant program at this time and that we have until the June meeting as the TIF doesn't being until July 1, 2020.

7. New Business

- A. Rich advised that the "Warm Your Heart in Bucksport Campaign" was on its second week and that he would check in with the businesses to see how it was going.
- B. Rich advised the committee that Bucksport would be a feature article in the May/June addition of the ABA Destination Magazine that will be sent out to all its members on May 8th and is complimentary so there will be no cost to the town.
- C. Rich advised that the YMCA has hired Matt McInnis as the new site director.
- D. Rob asked if there has been any interest in the Feldman Lot recently. Rich said no recent activity. Mark asked where we stood with the contract with 2 Rivers Realty. Rich said that he would check with the Town Manager.

8. Adjournment

- A. Rob made a motion at 6:12pm. Jim seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.