

Agenda

- Review the goals of the Economic Development Committee and our vision for the Harbor
- Identify the optimal path forward that would allow us to make progress on key areas to make our July 1 deadline of presenting recommendations to the town of Sunapee

Attendance - In Person-Dan Bonin, Kellie Durkee, Cory Flint, Phil Harrell, Lisa Hoekstra, John Quackenbos, Pam Shughart, Pete Smith. The meeting was held at Prospect Hill Antiques from 5:30-7:30pm.

Below is the list of the subcommittees that we agreed that we needed along with subcommittee members (hopefully I accurately captured which sub-committee each of you is most interested in!). The goal of each sub-committee is to investigate their topic/workstream and report back to the Economic Development Committee at each monthly meeting (next one is February 13th).

- **Event sub-committee (Lisa, Dan, Kellie):** Make recommendations on weekly, monthly, annual calendar events to draw people into Sunapee Harbor
 - Review calendars of events and those of the region to come up with regional events to attract people year round
 - Look at current events Sunapee proper (e.g., Farmer's Market) and greater Sunapee Region
 - Study events in other towns (Lake Winny, Nantucket, Newport, Peterborough) across the US that could be replicated in Sunapee
 - What is happening around Sunapee or that is unique to Sunapee that can be leveraged? What events take advantage of our unique advantages? (e.g., Chowder fest? Brew fest? Fireman's ball. 5K year round (Memorial Day 5K). How many do we need and when?
 - Tackle how to pull off and sustain these events. E.g., how to coordinate these events-could we utilize people in high school to volunteer to coordinate events-resume builder. Civics class.
 - Where to advertise to let people know about the events? Or if people want to volunteer?
 - Project Sunapee come to share with us what they're doing?
 - Other committees to engage with:
- **Business viability sub-committee (Pete, John, Phil):** Make recommendations on what changes are required to zoning, taxes, assessment, etc) to make businesses viable year round and to recommend what businesses we need in the harbor to make it vibrant

- Study underlying costs of Riverway buildings and make recommendations on what types of businesses could be viable
 - How to make it economically viable for year round businesses?
 - Real estate-taxes, rents, property costs, regulations
 - Reach out to Lodge at Sunapee Stays-who are their customers, where do they pull from?
 - Ideas: create an association, pool together advertising,
 - What businesses are we recommending that we need? e.g., a boutique hotel?
 - Short term rentals-does this need to be changed?
 - Other committees to engage with: Planning and Zoning (David Andrews)
- **Signage sub-committee (Rick, Pam):** Make recommendations on what signage required to pull traffic into the Harbor.
 - E.g., Gateway Enhancement and signage->signage required to draw people off of Route 11
 - How much would that sign cost?
 - Where would the signs go?
 - What would they look like-quant feel?
 - Are there regulations on size of signs? (e.g., can they have lights?)
 - Other committees to engage with: RT 11 (Carol Wallace)
- **Underutilized spaces/building sub-committee (Cory, Pat, Tony):** Make recommendations on best uses of underutilized buildings/empty spaces around Sunapee Harbor.
 - Identify who owns underutilized properties and empty spaces in Sunapee Harbor?
 - What are our offerings/amenities/activities that could draw people into the Harbor year round? Dream-what could they be used for-e.g., Playground, dog park, ice skating rink, a community garden, Restaurant, etc. Different from events sub-committee which focuses on episodic events-these are year round amenities.
 - Study other towns (tourist) that can serve as a model to our economic development and make recommendations on what amenities (e.g., playground, etc) that they have in downtown that attract people

- Other committees to engage with: Harbor Reconfiguration (Chris Murphy), Planning and Zoning (David Andrews)