

NOTES OF THE BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
FOR TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
HELD ON March 6, 2023 at TOWN HALL

Present: Deb Gordon, Tistrya Houghtling, Chris Jansson, Danielle Kuffel, Sharon Powers, Eileen Raab, Erminia Rasmussen, Becky Segal, Monte Wasch , Josh Young (10 total)

Not present: Steve Abramson, Rochelle DiRe, Silke Fuchshofen, Chuck Gerald, Rae Gilson, Mitch Kelleher, Jack Lancto, Erminia Rasmussen (8 total)

A quorum was present.

Guest: Donald Lamonaca, Peg Munves

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 by Josh Young

MSC: to vote on the minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting was made by Tistrya Houghtling, seconded by Danielle Kuffel. Motion approved.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Outreach and Marketing – presented by Sharon Powers

The committee is making progress on the food brochure, though still having difficulty getting information from the businesses. The brochure is due to be sent out with the May Town newsletter. The subcommittee is still trying to locate a place for a community bulletin board.

Wastewater – presented by Josh Young

Discussion around the wastewater RFQ. The subcommittee is hoping to publish their RFQ and then find grant money to pay for it. Candace wrote much of the RFQ. The local business owners cannot make a decision until they know ongoing maintenance costs of it.

MSC: to recommend that the Town Board issue the RFQ to a select group of engineers and technical firms was made by Josh Young and seconded by Becky Segal. Motion approved.

Non-Profit Subcommittee – presented by Erminia Rasmussen

The non-profit committee requests that the subcommittee be dissolved since it has accomplished its mission of forming a non-profit for New Lebanon.

MSC: was made to dissolve the non-profit subcommittee was made by Tistrya Houghtling and seconded by Monte Wasch. Motion approved.

Childcare Subcommittee – presented by Josh Young

Erica has been progressing with the work to form a daycare center but the main difficulty now is finding a place to have it. Suggestions from the group included the West Lebanon firehouse, the Gallup Inn, the house near Meissner's, the old B & B next to Mario's that was recently vacated, and Darrow.

It was also noted that since the daycare project will be using ARPA funds, there should be some public process to apply for them, since someone else in town may be interested. Notice should be sent out that if someone is interested, they should send in a letter, along with their qualifications. Would like the service to be accessible to low and moderate income people.

MSC: To task the childcare Subcommittee to come up with a public notice to be sent out before Friday, March 10, to find a qualified daycare provider was made by Tistrya Houghtling and seconded by Monte Wasch. The letter of interest should be received three weeks after the Board meeting and interviews held before the next BEDC meeting. Motion approved.

Remote Work Subcommittee – presented by Eileen Raab and Becky Segal

The committee needs to find out what type of accommodations are needed by residents. It was suggested that a survey go out to find out and it should be put up on community bulletin boards, the Town newsletter, Grow the Valley, Facebook and maybe backpacked home at the school.

Motion to adjourn at 7:24 made by Josh Young and seconded by Tistrya Houghtling

Next meeting: April 3, 2023 at 6:30pm

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Powers