

# **Mendon Economic Development Committee**

October 24, 2017 at 6 PM at the Town Office.

Attendees: Richard Wilcox, Selectboard Chair, Sara Tully, Town Administrator, Brittany Charles, Mendon Mountain Orchards, Mark Latzky, Virtual Solutions, Patrick Kitchin, Cortina, Katherine Salinas, Cortina, Cort Jones, People's United Insurance Agency, Fred Bagley, Planning Commission.

## **Appointed Members:**

Sara Tully reported that the Selectboard formally created the MEDC on 10-9-17 and appointed Richard Wilcox, Selectboard Chair, Brittany Charles, Mendon Mountain Orchards, Mark Latzky, Virtual Solutions, Patrick Kitchin, Cortina, Bob Stedman, Casella Construction, Joe Casella, Casella Construction and John Casella II, Casella Associates. The attendees brainstormed ways to attach additional members of the community to participate. It was agreed by those present that we should not limit participation in any way at this time. Once the committee is well established, if there needs to be actual appointed members of the committee to make decisions on behalf of MEDC, the group will request appointment of individual members. Sara Tully will present this idea to the Selectboard at their next meeting. In the meantime, current members will continue to welcome anyone that wants to participate.

## **Minutes:**

Sara Tully presented the minutes from the October 5<sup>th</sup>. Minutes are posted on the Mendon Website at [www.mendonvt.org](http://www.mendonvt.org)

The group discussed and brainstormed MEDC's mission, goals and objectives.

1. Grow the Grand List
2. Diversify Commercial Business
3. Promote Residential Development
4. Create a Brand for Mendon
5. Community Outreach Locally and Regionally

Draft Mission Statement: To promote economic growth in the Town of Mendon through the attraction of new business and industry and the retention of existing businesses by providing the resources that enable development and advance the general well-being of the community.

## **Rutland County Community Outreach**

Discussion regarding reaching out to the Mendon community and also the Rutland County community. The committee will contact the Rutland Chamber of Commerce and REDC to get detailed information about the Killington Valley and Real Rutland.

Tasks before the next meeting:

1. All members will continue to do outreach and get more people to the table.
2. Richard Wilcox will contact Sara Gilbert, Casella's to discuss the organization of the committee.
3. Mark Latzky will create a draft survey to use to poll Mendon businesses regarding challenges and successes.
4. Patrick Kitchin will contact the Town of Brandon to discuss their economic development strategies.
5. Fred Bagley will work on MEDC's mission statement from the draft created at this meeting.

The next MEDC meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2017 at 6 PM.