

## Mendon Economic Development Committee

October 5, 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, Bob Stedman, Casella Construction

This organizational meeting was warned to gauge interest in the community to serve on an Economic Development Committee. All commercial property owners and business owners were invited to serve on the committee. Anyone interested can contact Sara Tully at the Town Office.

R. Wilcox provided an overview of the current economic environment in Mendon. The town is looking at a town-wide reappraisal to be performed over the next few years and finalized in April 2020. Many commercial properties along Route 4 have experienced a significant drop in value since the last appraisal in 2005. Over this time period we have seen many businesses continue to be the staples in our community. Mendon also has vacant buildings that are unsightly that detracts from the overall appearance of Mendon as you drive Route 4.

The voters of Mendon agreed to financially support the Killington Valley marketing initiative organized by the Rutland Chamber of Commerce and Rutland Economic Development Corporation. The Town of Killington and the Killington Ski Area continue to advance with their economic development plans and the mountain's future construction of the long planned "village".

Mendon is looking for this committee to identify issues and come up with creative solutions. We can look to our neighboring towns as to what they are doing and tailor an action plan that suits Mendon.

The group enthusiastically brainstormed different ideas to get started. Each agreed to participate on the committee and recruit others to participate as well.

On behalf of the Selectboard, R. Wilcox thanked everyone for coming and volunteering to serve on the committee. The Selectboard will appoint members to the Mendon Economic Development Committee on October 9, 2017.

The next MEDC meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2017 at 6 PM.