

BRISTOL CORE BOARD MEETING

**Wednesday, November 7, 2018, 9:00 AM
Holley Hall**

Meeting Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Hamshaw

Attendees – Ian Albinson, Aidan Lenihan, Meridith McFarland, Valerie Capels, Kelly Hamshaw

Scheduled Appointments

No scheduled appointments

Minutes

No issues with minutes

Downtown Retreat report out – Ian and Kelly attended. Each community was asked to pose a challenge or question. Ian asked about attracting new economic development to town. Talking to local chamber commerce, economic development boards, working with current business owners and property owners, have a pop-up event. Wilmington offered a \$20,000 award for a business proposal and funded three operations to come to Main St. They used a gift and some dollars from the downtown organization to spur ideas. Important connection to existing resources. Thinking about networking with Middlebury and Vergennes.

December CORE Events:

- Cool Yule: We'll have a calendar of events to distribute. Lumen moved to Saturday due to lack of availability of fire dancers.
- Chocolate Walk - Vendors in Bristol Café and Vermont Goods. Pop-up at 11 Main SunCommon Energy. Considering signage. Memory Tree and Candy Cane Hunt at 6:30.
- Eat, Drink, Be Merry – shopping event, lots of local musicians. Drop-off kids for sitting at Holley Hall. Drawing for Bristol Bucks.
- Lumen –holley hall lantern making workshop, fire performance, lit parade, and fire pits.
- Tandem – Maker Fair on November 24th.

CLG Program – Presented to the Selectboard and there is interest in exploring possibility. Ian brought the CLG concept to the Design Review Commission to consider if we could add a couple slots to meet the guidelines for CLG. Would not require any additional zoning changes. Need to find additional with Grant money to do interesting projects around historic preservation. Ian and Kelly will do some scouting to identify folks with the specific skill sets in the five town area. Katie would be interested in joining. CLG has the opportunity to comment on any federal projects. Money can be used to update the historical registry of places.

Downtown safety and speed reduction project – Paused for the moment with the new grant cycle that BPD can apply for to be put towards this shared partnership. Bruce says that there are new guidelines for equipment and can be used to improve the crosswalk across Main at by the Bank and slowing traffic in town.

Business and Building Updates –

- 20 Main St – owner is interested in selling the space. Ian and Aiden gave a \$700 proposal to make the space more attractive. Major water issues need to be addressed. Under new ownership, tax credits for facade improvement and accessibility issues. John and Ian are going to meet with Gregg Marston about the space for a meet and greet. Two apartments upstairs that likely need investment. ARTSight is interested in doing an art display to cover the windows.
- 22 Main St – two improved apartments. VT Farm Table will be moving into storefront. No date yet.
- 11 Main St – SunCommon is partnering with the energy committee and other non-profits to do a pop-up for the three main events. Emeraldrose Grows on the left hand side which is move-in ready. Katie shares that we need a subcommittee for the energy grant and perhaps that space would be a good place to get feedback about the process. One of the planning grant requirements is to generate public interest, so perhaps we could use the events to generate interests/participation. Still waiting on decision about the grant. RPC holds the money and then work with the town to develop the energy plan.

Town of Bristol Updates –

- Investigating options to fix the lightpoles along Main St with thinking about higher pedestals to avoid the snowplow issue. Katie is happy to work with folks to investigate options.
- Intersection plantings – cutbacks are done. CORE has considered taking over responsibility for the intersection plantings. Ian, Aiden, and Katie could make a plan. The intersection planting plan should be tied into the repaving projects and the stormwater master plan. Right now is the opportunity to add bike lanes, water issues, etc. Need to coordinate all the moving pieces before things move to construction. Ian asks Katie to find out where things stand and provide an update.
- Recreation Dept. (7 at Hub) – Upcoming meeting will be third meeting. Charge has been focused on 76 West St. Ian, Brian, and Meridith have developed pros/cons that have been locating at different sites. Hockey rink, horse ring, and the house. Kelly will attend the upcoming meeting to talk about survey. Emphasis on creating partnership with the BRC.

Misc. CORE Projects

- Melanie Kessler – Animating Infrastructure Project – Ian will meet with Melanie to discuss possibility of bike racks. Ian will give her update about the various moving projects and associated complications
- VOREC Grant Program -- Porter held group meeting for brainstorming ideas about grant applications. CORE is could explore putting together proposal for putting together marketing/wayfinding/promotion type project. Increase opportunities and stewardship.
 - Promoting existing assets
 - Website, design and build app, attract other entities to come to Bristol.