

**BRISTOL CORE  
BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, December 5, 2018, 9:00 AM  
Holley Hall**

**Meeting Minutes**

*Prepared by Kelly Hamshaw*

**Attendees** – Ian Albinson, Aidan Lenihan, Meridith McFarland, Valerie Capels, Kelly Hamshaw, Amanda Sorrell, Gerrie Heuts, Eric Cota

**I. Call to order: 9:00 AM**

**II. Scheduled Appointments**

- Gerrie Heuts (Community-based Learning Coordinator at Mount Abe) – Newly crafted position at Mount Abe through Act 77 – requiring every high school student to have an internship, community service experience. Gerrie is teaching a course about “workplace skills” and seeing if there are opportunities for job shadowing, volunteering, and internships. Many students lack job experience even as seniors in high school. Ian will share a link to an article about employer issues. Brenda and Nancy Orvis – Mount Abe mentoring program – 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grades. Strong program in Starksboro and trying to get more students matched up with a small grant from the Mobius Program. Currently there are 21 mentors that are connected with middle school students. Each mentor sponsorship costs \$250. Planning to ask for Mt. Abe cost share to be included in next year’s budget. (Kelly to get contact information from St. Johnsbury).
- Gerrie is finding that students need job coaches to help them problem-solve and develop those skills on-site.
- Ian suggests having a list of students that are looking for opportunities and their interests that can be shared with CORE and local businesses. An idea of developing a book with community needs and student interests.
- Ian is interested in developing a Youth Engagement Initiative – similar to examples from Shelburne and Manchester, VT. Kelly recommends a grant opportunity from Vermont Community Foundation to investigate:  
<https://www.vermontcf.org/NonprofitsGrants/AvailableGrants/SparkConnectingCommunity.aspx>

### **III. New Items**

- Amanda Sorrell - Moved to Bristol from St. Albans about a year ago and looking for an opportunity to meet new people in the community. Works for a realty company and is excited to join the board. Welcome Amanda!

### **IV. Open Items**

- Cool Yule – 3 Bristol CORE events with an array of other events from Bristol Rec, Bristol Best Night.
- Chocolate Walk - Liquor Permits were approved for Hogback, Shacksbury, Champlain Orchards, Boyers. Set-up to start at 3:30/4.
- Chief Nason is going to install temporary lighting for crosswalk at all three events.
- Eat, Drink, and Be Merry - Dec 14<sup>th</sup> with rotating musical venues.
- Holiday Party for Kids – with a singing group.
- Lumen – lantern making workshop at Holley Hall at 4 PM, Cirque de Fuego on the green, with fires and food in the two alleys. Event help starting at 3 PM. Add Christmas lights. Continue to push fundraiser.
- Kelly shared some informal updates from the Bristol Best Night Planning Committee and will follow-up with Best Night folks to get in touch with Meridith re: Holley Hall.

### **V. Business & Building Updates**

- 20 Main has a potential buyer. Met with Valerie about details regarding water and sewer capacity and she also shared the resources for building improvement. Have also been in contact with John Moyers. John suggested that the seller make a \$5,000 donation.
- 11 Emeraldrose Grows – store is open and Suncommon pop-up is open.
- 22 Main was going to be Farm Table but unfortunately not moving. Honeylights is moving over across the Street with InStitches due to apathetic landlord issues. February move in date.
- Kelly mentioned having Gwen Pokalo being interested in scheduling for an upcoming meeting as she is interested in running classes to support small businesses around the state.

## **VI. Sidewalk Expansion Project**

- Working on moving the plan forward and incorporating public feedback, work estimates with a timeline aiming for Fall 2019. Chronic issues with the lampposts due to wiring etc. Received one grant to support the revamp of the curbing and stamped concrete.
- Need to have more conversations about what we aim to light and concerns about residential units.
- VTrans will be paving from Prayer's Rock to past Mount Abe in 2020.

## **VII. Recreation Steering Committee**

- Bellweather gave presentation about the constraints of the 76 West St. property.
- SB would like to proceed putting the property to be warned at Town Meeting and will continue to discuss on Dec 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to reset – broadening the scope and participation.

## **VIII. VOREC Grant**

- Discussion around potential uses for the funding. With the timeline and available human resources, we've decided to set aside until next year and see what gets funded this year.
- Meredith raised question of the town being willing to pay for a professional grant writer.

## **IX. Sidewalk Snow and Ice Issues**

- Concerns about safety of sidewalk in the downtown block. Could we have a bucket drop to provide salt/dirt to keeping entrances clear? Quick discussion with Eric about this potential. Eric says the sidewalks are only cleared when weather necessitates. Discrepancy with business owners' expectations about roles/responsibilities.
- Can we establish a policy about what town and the business owners can each do?

## **X. Misc Projects**

- Reel Film Fridays – Small but steady attendance on Friday evenings. Skipped December due to CORE's Friday events. Returns January 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **XI. Next Meeting – January 2, 2019**

## **XII. Adjourn.**