

BRISTOL CORE BOARD MEETING

**Wednesday, March 06, 2019, 9:00 AM
Holley Hall**

MEETING MINUTES

Prepared by Kelly Hamshaw

- I. Call to order: 9:00 AM.** Attendees: Ian Albinson, Aidan Lenihan, Valerie Capels, Meridith McFarland, Amanda Sorrell

- II. Approval of minutes** - move to April meeting - Kelly is working on the recordings for March and February

- III. Open items**
 - A. Newsletter** – Newsletter has been sent out to our distribution list of about 300 people through Mail Chimp with a good response (50% reading rate). Bristol CORE board members didn't receive email which highlights the importance of getting a simple way for people to sign up. We can the PayPal account to the newsletter.

 - B. Support Campaign** -- Ian has secured a donation envelope template to get printed and Ian will draft a letter to send along with the envelope. Looking for better terminology to describe the campaign. Most people seem to be using PayPal while some still send checks.

 - C. Vermont Business Magazine** – See attached article by Kelly Hamshaw (PDF sent prior to meeting). We had submitted two in the past for VBM with the last one in 2015. We did an update article and Valerie suggests it could fit in for the AAA article that she contacted for the summer to plan for 2020. Kelly provided details about changes to Main Street.

 - D. Pocock Rocks Music Festival & Street Fair** -- Aiden is working on developing logistics and potential performers so board members can review and provide input. Part of finding performers - looking for original local musicians making original music. Aiden encourages people to submit content through Ian and Aiden (both vendors and musicians). We do 6 bands - first three with half hour sets and last three with 45 minutes. Last year's theme was Reggae Skaw and thinking this year could be jam bands. Want to ensure that the line-up is fresh every year. Tim Brick Band might be a candidate for returning for this year. Half hour sets are short from the band's perspective. We could move to annex stage at Hatch after Main Street ends as a possibility for this afternoon. Ian will compile a list to share. Sponsorships currently stand at \$6,000 for this year. Ian reached out to the Community Bank and the National Bank of Middlebury as well and waiting to hear. Still looking for more sponsors for this year to hit \$10,000 mark so looking for additional potential sponsors. Consider increasing revenue from vendors (2018 - \$65 for activities/non-profit groups and \$75 for food vendors, and \$85 for alcohol). Meridith will confirm pricing for Harvest Festival. We haven't raised prices in two years. Aiden suggests exploring creating a zone for the whole downtown in order to avoid cordoned areas for alcohol and color code cups? Discussed Ian making a time with DLC to walk through the area and consider options and concerns for this year or next year. Discussed options for providing shade as sun has been difficult in the past - shade clothes to tether across the seating areas? Could we get temporary lifts to provide shade - Aiden and Ian will talk with

Randy. There will be street drainage work across the green in May so hopefully that will be completed before Pocock Rocks. Need to compile list of vendors and try to balance. T-Shirts to be re-ordered in sizes that we've sold out in prior years--Aiden suggests American Apparel t-shirts from Kayla. (Addition from Kelly: consider hats -- more portable partial shade!).

E. Town of Bristol Updates -- Main Street Lighting & Sidewalk Improvements – to be held at 10:30 am kick off meeting + site visit; approval from Selectboard on contract with Dubois and King and to apply for other funds to support the project to cover engineer cost gap, benches, and bike racks. Will need to borrow from Revolving Loan Fund to cover the rest.

F. Other Business -- Valerie inquired about Bristol Bucks! and if there's increased signage available for businesses to display? Ian has re-designed logo and will work more on raising profile as new businesses have settled within the Main St. block. Wallace Realty is handling showing space to a couple people with intention for an organic market in the space. Ian would like to show OGE managers the space as well. 20 Main purchase is moving forward with a closing upcoming on March 8th for a day spa and Ian will be taking to James about making a donation to CORE for the work that was done to facilitate sale. Concerns have been raised about the Hatch 31 building as the gateway to town - Valerie raises the idea of a mural. Valerie is putting out a RFQ for a low interest loan for an engineering study to expand the septic system to allow more capacity for the downtown area as we only have 1,000 additional gallons. It could make more opportunity for new dining options and make water capacity more affordable. Town is also trying to address issues with grease traps that are also taxing the system and considering zoning ordinance changes. More updates to come.

G. Next Meeting – April 3, 2019

IV. Adjourn.