

CASTLETON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Castleton Town Office
and ZOOM

Meeting Recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/iEDPyN91J2FRG-eXVBc3U-gFkTsA2SCOlG27KOnu0UaeSRTi19AqD9d7JWw8wMGO.FBpDEzyC3060g3Sk>

Passcode: uLUn?8N.

Those in attendance included: Committee Members, Mary McIntyre, Martha Clifford, Petrina teRiele, Ted Molnar, Zack Holzworth, Richard Combs, Beth Murphy, Devon Neary of RRPC, Tyler Richardson of CEDRR, See Attached List

Others present by Zoom included: Allison Harvey, Recording Secretary

M. McIntyre called the meeting to order at 6:38 P.M.

M. McIntyre thanked everyone present for attending and made committee member and guest introductions.

Greeting and Introductions

D. Neary explained what the RRPC does for the county of Rutland, the link between the State of Vermont and local towns. At the end of the day, they have dozens of programs they monitor, grants and what their platform is, helping towns with Town Plan rewrites and municipal capacity.

T. Richardson explained the basis of his organization, connecting organizations with business and community members to help with development

Business Representatives 'Round Table' Exercises and Discussion

M. McIntyre reviewed the 3 questions they are posing to those present to help with the brainstorm sessions.

What are your concerns with your business?

M. Brown, Brown's Auto Salvage – In business 45 years, biggest concern is lack of water and septic. State mandates requirements that are not available in their location.

Representative of Castleton University is present to see how they can help with local businesses

ML Harris family has been in business for many generations, made slippers.

J. Steele, Tom's Bait & Tackle, cost of goods and R. Steele, lack of public areas to fish around the area.

T. Brannock, childcare program, a lot of struggles with COVID, and getting approvals through the town for permitting.

C. Stannard and J. Stannard has childcare in Fair Haven, looking for change of use for the Ice House property. They are also lacking the ability to find employees, and see that their patrons

Kyle of the Lakehouse Pub and Grille, lack of town water.

B. could use a bigger store space, not a lot of retail space in Castleton.

B. Woodard, Woodard Marine, lack of sewer on Creek Road. Not so much water, but definitely sewer. Also a promotion of the lake. There are a lot of people that do not know the lake is there. A Woodard employee, cell service is also an issue. Another comment about crosswalks across the road on Creek Road. M. Jones stated he would make a site visit.

What are your wishes for your business future?

M. Brown, loves everything about the town and county, they have a goal of 10% increase every year since opened, many years have gone beyond, but are restricted at this time because of water/sewer and number of employees.

Tom's Bait, don't want to lose anything, but are at their max now.

T. Brannock, secure a long-term location to provide high quality childcare to the community.

Stannards had the same comments of T. Brannock.

Lake Bomoseen Lodge would like to be able to keep business up through the year and keep employees year-round. The lake should be promoted more.

Woodard's felt a sidewalk up Creek Road should be considered.

Discussion on State property around the lake and how it is maintained or the lack thereof.

What do you think the town of Castleton needs to do to attract tourists/visitors and potential residents.

Woodard's, advertise the plusses of the area, skiing in winter, fishing in summer and winter, boating in summer, hiking. T. Richardson his organization does a good amount of advertising for towns throughout the county. M. Jones are interested in connecting with the marketing students at Castleton University, could spotlight local businesses.

Discussion on signage in the Town, and on Route 4, as well as traffic and improving signage at Castleton Corners. Also discussion on bike race that has been held recently and had issues with traffic holding up the race. Rail trail was also discussed, as well as housing availability.

Changes in zoning regulations are also needed. Discussion on what sections need to be updated and revised. M. Jones invited everyone to attend a Planning Commission meeting to voice their opinions of what needs to be changed.

Closing Remarks

M. McIntyre thanked everyone for their input. Further discussion on sewer and water, what needs to be done to accomplish these things and the costs of the projects and what is in process within Castleton and what is on the project list for the future.

8:09 pm Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted

Allison Harvey, Recording Secretary