



Town of Sheffield Economic Development Committee

Minutes of 5/18/11 meeting. Attendees: Jim Kelly, Kevin Schmitz and Rene Wood.
Public Present: Reporter from Berkshire Record.

Meeting called to order at 5:05pm; K. Schmitz chaired the meeting. Motion was made by K. Schmitz, and seconded by R. Wood, to approve the minutes for 3/23/11 as written. Approval was unanimous.

K. Schmitz briefly reviewed the business kiosk / information center sponsored by the Sheffield Business Association to be located next to the restaurant on the village green. Question of when to be completed.

Discussion of "How to Do Business in Sheffield", with some feedback received but still waiting for Planning Board and BOS/Town Administrator. J. Hannum has provided feedback. Will be focus of next meeting with comments to be /reviewed incorporated before getting feedback from ZBA and Building Inspector. J. Kelly to write up a sentence suggesting the value of "finding a confident".

Committee membership was discussed. R. Wood will follow up and see if J. Kellogg, will send the notice seeking members again to the Eagle and Record. J. Kelly discussed person to do grant writing on economic development topics; he will check and see if person willing to do pro bono work. If so, R. Wood will see if BTF would provide free access to their grant database service to this person.

Sheffield in Celebration was discussed with goal of recruiting more business participation. R. Wood to discuss with David Smith, Sr. and get date. J. Kelly to discuss with Sheffield Business Association and K. Schmitz to review with Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce. Would like to see the business emphasis from the beginning of their advertising. R. Wood to draft article for July/August Sheffield Times.

J. Kelly, who was seeking the EDC support for it, reviewed the Farmer's Market. The committee supports the Farmer's Market but took no position on the siting issue before the Board of Selectmen. J. Kelly discussed a concept he will be presenting to the Market's Board re: a Market Day in an inclusive sense, which would include local non-farm businesses.

Corner Market discussed by J. DeVries at 3/23/11 meeting was deferred, as she was not present. R. Wood questioned whether there would be any Berkshire Grown farm maps this year.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 5pm, 1st floor conference room. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm, on a motion by R. Wood, seconded by J. Kelly, which passed unanimously.

No documents, other than draft minutes, were reviewed during the Committee's meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Rene Wood.