Town of Fair Haven Economic Development Committee July 10, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Glen Traverse via Zoom, Judi Sutherland, Jessica Stannard, Chadd Viger, Liam Laramie, Joe Gunter

Call to Order

Glen Traverse, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Review the Agenda

Mr. Traverse requested a change to the Agenda to move the two applications for the Revolving Loan discussion ahead of reviewing the Minutes of June 12, 2023. Mr. Gunter moved to accept the Agenda as amended. Ms. Stannard seconded and the motion passed.

Ms. Laura Merone-Walsh, representing Donuts of Rutland, presented her application for the Revolving Loan Fund. The funds would be used to help fund essential equipment, in particular a walk-in cooler. Completion of the project on Washington Street is estimated to be early Fall.

Mr. Chadd Viger, representing Green Mountain Elite Sports, presented his application for the Revolving Loan Fund. The facility will be known as The HAVEN and will provide sports fitness and development. The funds would be used to help finance their building.

Discussion of both applications will be reviewed and discussed by the EDC Committee. Their recommendations will be forwarded to the Select Board.

Review the Minutes of June 12, 2023

There were no changes to the Minutes of June 12, 2023. Mr. Gunter moved to accept the minutes as presented, Ms. Stannard seconded the motion passed.

Old Business

IBC Updates

The Touch A Truck event was a huge success. It was bigger and better than before. The community made a large presence and we thank them for their support. The decorations in the Park for Memorial Day and July 4th have been taken down until next year. The IBC is sorry to report that there was considerable vandalism to the display. The next event is Family Day in the Park on July 28th with a lot of fun things for all ages to enjoy.

Town Plan – Economic Development Section

Discussed all first floor spaces on Main Street to be business/retail. Continue to refine the EDC section of the Town Plan.

Fair Haven Business Inventory

An updated business inventory continues to be compiled.

New Business

Fair Haven Recreation Economy

Discussion continues on the importance of a strong recreation economy with programs and facilities for adults and children. Soliciting corporate/business sponsors for events helps support these programs. A recreation Director is needed, whether it be full time or Recreation Director/Economic Development Member.

Air B&B Short Term Rental Town Tax

We will have a more detailed discussion at our next meeting.

Building Communities Grant Application Schedule

No applications have been received.

Public Comment – None

Next meeting: August 7, 2023 at 5:30pm

Adjourn

Mr. Viger moved to adjourn. Ms. Stannard seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted, Judi Sutherland