

**City of Franklin, New Hampshire
City Manager's Economic Development Task Force
3/7/2024 9am Franklin Public Library**

In attendance: Niel Cannon, Marty Parichand, Jim Aberg, Seth Creighton, Judie Milner

Others in attendance: Chuck Gilboy, Capital Regional Development Council (CRDC)

Milner called the meeting to order at 9:14am.

Group discussed status of current grant submissions – LWCF and CDFA. Jim Aberg, FBIDC, needs a letter of support from Judie for the CDFA Capacity Building grant application to benefit the opera house (\$75,000 total, net \$60,000). Groups discussed next steps for food coop. Decided to apply under CDFA CDBG Planning grant vs. USDA. Niel spoke with Ed King of the Littleton food coop and will have some numbers for the application.

Niel will follow up with Northern Borders on status of Merrimack County being added to eligibility zones.

Discussed analytics for the group to put on the city website along with videos, testimonials, etc. – grants leveraged XXX, 10 years ago commercial vs. total tax, investment vs reval.

Group discussed updated timeline for upcoming educational sessions as follows:

3/18 Assessing 101

3/25 Budget 101

4/8 TIF 101 – group discussed asking Matt Walsh of Concord to help present

4/15 Economic Development 101

Group discussed strategy & support for NEMBA and the Great Gains forest. Consensus is a need for a master plan with Franklin Outing Club, Conservation Commission, NEMBA, and other stakeholders. Start this project is July. Seth stated that we should look at the deed ahead of time so we are up to speed on restrictions.

Group discussed Senator Shaheen's congressional direct spend projects for 2024 ask. Agreed opera house. Discussed next steps.

Next meeting 3/21/24, 9am, Franklin Fire Department.

Adjourn 11:36 am.