

East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee (VRC)  
Meeting  
Wednesday, July 26, 2017  
Minutes

DRAFT

Committee Members Present: Bill Gerrish (Chairman), Melanie Kolek (Secretary), Will Brady, Bob Casner, Jim Curtin (arrived 7:34 p.m.)

Others in Attendance: Emmett Lyman (arrived 7:36 p.m.), Mark Walter, Gerald (J.T.) Smith, Charles Dickinson, Kevin Staehly

Absent: Mike Gionta, Randy Dill

Mr. Gerrish called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Approval of agenda  
Casner/Kolek

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of minutes from May 30, 2017  
Casner/Brady

MOTION CARRIED

New Business

a. Review of Candidates for Committee

Mr. Gerrish advised the committee received four applications for two open vacancies for alternate members. Those citizens who submitted applications are Charles Dickinson, Gerald (J.T.) Smith, Kevin Staehly, & Mark Walter.

Each candidate made a statement to the committee regarding their nomination. Mr. Brady asked the candidates their perspectives on the desire to keep the district's historical perspective in mind in the committee's decision making, and each candidate responded to that inquiry.

Mrs. Kolek made a motion to recommend J.T. Smith and Mark Walters as alternates to the committee. Motion seconded by Bob Casner. There was discussion about all applicants being commended for their interest and each of them being highly qualified for the open positions.

MOTION CARRIED

b. Review of Goals for Committee

Mr. Gerrish discussed the key points of the committee's vision created over the course of several years that was eventually sent out in an RFQ in 2011.

Mr. Gerrish stated that the committee's original charge is how to advise the town how to move forward with that vision in mind. Mr. Casner advised that EDC (Economic

Development Commission) agreed with recommendation to test the ground area which is now in process. There was discussion about developing a partnership with surrounding land owners and what efforts the EDC has made since the RFQ was developed.

There was also discussion about the state's proposed plans for the refurbishment of the bridge and inclusion of a sidewalk on its south side. Haddam is likely going to make sidewalks from Tylerville down to the bridge and it may be something the committee wishes to consider in its discussions.

c. Review of Committee Meeting Schedule

The 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month at Grange Hall will be the committee's regular meeting date.

Next meeting is a special, joint meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Grange with both EDC and VRC at the Grange.

Audience of Citizens

Mr. Walters distributed an article on private/public partnership projects.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Curtin, seconded by Mrs. Kolek. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.