

**Meeting Minutes for Hardwick Downtown Commission  
Birdsong Beer & Wine, Hardwick  
Monday, November 15, 2021, 9 a.m.**

Present: Shari Cornish, Gary Michaels, Sandy Scott, Katie Tandy, Sally Anstey, Abrah Griggs, Tobin Porter, Emily Hershberger

Item #1: Motion to approve minutes from last meeting by Gary, seconded by Tobin.

Item #2: Update on Municipal Planning Grant application

- Alison submitted the application, for a grant of \$22,000
- These funds are meant to pay a consultant to help organize the Downtown Commission non-profit
- If received, it must be used within 18 months.
- The consultant may be used in other capacities.

Shari has spoken to Gary Holloway, who will be our advocate in our pursuit of Downtown Designation. He will attend our next meeting, if it can be held on December 20th.

Item #3: Shari applied for an AARP Winter Place grant and has discussed increased holiday lighting downtown with town manager.

- The grant (\$4,000) will cover most of the cost of an electrician to add outlets for lighting around lamp posts.
- May not happen this year, but the electrical department is on board to help. \*\*note: following this meeting, the lights arrived and have been put up around trees and fence near the intersection.
- Shari ordered lights (\$1300), which have been paid for by Whistle, and the town has approved \$500 toward covering the cost.
- Shari requests that the Commission considers approving some or all of the rest of the money to help cover the cost of lights.
- We may be able to run a fundraising campaign to pay for some or all of this \$800 balance.
- Sandy makes a motion to reimburse Whistle. Emily seconds the motion.
- Vote to approve is unanimous.

Item #4: Banners

- Abrah invites people to work on sketching ideas outside of the meeting. This is solely to design banners, not to redesign the town logo or to create a logo for the Downtown Commission.
- First set of 15 banners will carry a single design. The second set (to be created at a later date) will be open for local organizations to advertise.
- Further discussion about elements to include or avoid.
  - Goals - to create a welcoming message that will encourage people to stop and spend time (and money!) in downtown Hardwick.

- Abrah will check with the printer to determine the timeline involved in printing banners.
- Emily suggests seeking out more perspectives for banner design. Shari comments that these meetings are open to the public - feel free to invite anyone interested to join us at any time!

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, December 20, 2021,\* at 9 a.m. at Birdsong.

\*Shari will get a confirmation from Gary Holloway that he will attend. If he is not able to attend on that date, our next meeting will be held January 17, 2022.

Minutes submitted by Sandy Scott, November 19, 2021.