

EDAC Meeting 2/21/2024 (commenced at 6:05 PM)

Minutes

Attending: Charlie Albano, Clyde Carson, Brett Ingold, Nancy Martin, Sara Johnson, Harry Seidel and Neil Nevins

Minutes of 1/17/2024 were approved.

KLS Food Pantry: Charlie spoke briefly about and distributed a KLS Food Pantry brochure. The Kearsarge Lake Sunapee Community Food Pantry, a 13-year-old 501(c) 3 nonprofit that is supported by local individuals, businesses, and organizations.

Community Center Report: Charlie gave a brief history of EDAC's involvement in the building's discovery process and the current status. After extensive cost analysis, the consensus of the EDAC and BOS is to take a year to engage the residents in a process of determining how the building can best serve the town.

Mike Tardiff from the Central NH Regional Planning Commission has agreed to facilitate Listening sessions to solicit community input.

Charlie announced the Warner Early Learning Center has openings for (4) full-time infants. Brochures were distributed for use to get the word out.

Kawasiwajob Community Land Trust: Bret distributed an informational sheet outlining the Vision, History/Background, Name info, and the KCLT's values. Prominent in the list are stability, housing affordability, strengthening community, encouraging ecological vitality, and enabling the ability to build equity.

Bret answered various questions about the philosophy of the land trust and mentioned the original owner of their first large initiative is currently offering a 4/1 investment promotion. (\$10 invested gets a \$30 match from the owner)

Housing Committee: Bret gave a brief overview of the Housing Advisory Committee's efforts to gather responses from the community through a successful questionnaire. They are open to further suggestions to further

engagement. Bret opened it up to comment from the EDAC committee to offer their ideas in general about the subject of housing.

- One suggestion was to reach out to the business community.
- Sara suggested developing housing within the existing housing stock is the most affordable and practical way. Adaptive reuse and conversion from single units to multiple units is a model that has proven successful.
- Accessory Dwelling Units achieve similar results economically.
- Neil mentioned that Housing should not be approached in isolation from other aspects of community development, that serves the human needs of families and contribute to the vitality of the town center.
- Harry agreed with Neil that Housing involves other aspects of planning such as energy use, transportation, child care and town layout.
- Additionally, the most significant and popular housing in the era of Climate change is larger multi-unit apartment type structures because energy conserving measures and goals are more easily and economically achieved by such structures.
- Building single unit housing is too costly for the majority of our residents, young and old.

Town Report 2023: Charlie distributed the EDAC's Town Report for 2023 which will be printed in the 2023 Annual Town Report.

Magdalen College Closing: Clyde reported that this Spring Magdalen College will be closing. Various Catholic-serving entities may act to save the property from being for sale. It is too early to know the future of Magdalen College. Charlie mentioned its potential for mixed housing or for elderly housing. The campus has a fantastic view to the West.

Exit 9: Sara reported on multiple efforts made to discover possible business development at the Exit 9 area. She contacted the Small Business Development Corp and they said the marketplace is simply not active enough to inspire interest. She is waiting to hear from an NH

Economic Development agent, but the general message she has heard is that the right business is not in evidence at the moment. She will continue.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM