

Meeting Minutes – Economic Development Advisory Committee  
Meeting of April 10, 2024– 5:30pm, Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room  
Approved by vote 24APR2024, Submitted by: Sarah Kerns, Chair

Members present: Jinx Hastings, Patricia Young , Steve Stoia, Sarah Kerns

Members absent: none

Visitors present: Howard Hastings

1. Next meeting set for 24APR 530-700

2. 5 minute updates -

Jinx-

- blooming Northfield, shelburne encourages plantings (JINX will send article)
- Assessor's office- lots of detail you have to know before you get any info on the website discussion of public records request for tax information. NOTE Northfield mountain pays 25% of our taxes.
- Look at Petersham Open Space & recreation plan survey

Steve-

- Business park will take a lot of work, and a lot of time, and is a partial remedy.
- Business park(not industrial)/ business interviews, idea came out of NATABA
- Andrea was hired in part because she had grant writing experience

Patricia-

- how to make Northfield more self-dependent and self-sufficient. Concerned that people of the town know how precious our farmland is, and how important it is to be able to grow our own food.
- community resource guide
- Scaffolding for infrastructure- what do we think are the key factors that we could enhance in Northfield to make us self-sustaining so we are not always looking for outside money
- Bylaws amendments

Sarah-

- Northfield farms handout
- Request info from grant coordinator re: grant dashboard/meeting attendance

3. Membership - seeking young families, businesses

4. Business park

- a. Local farms
- b. Botanical gardens
- c. Small stages and arts centers
- d. Trails to mainstreet

5. Survey data- read some comments, will provide more summary once the full datasheet is available

6. Next Steps-

- a. Patricia is going to research successful vibrant farm towns of similar populations
- b. Steve reach out to FRCOG
- c. Jinx- parking study
- d. Sarah - eval recent survey data, contact PVRS re:ecology education grant, contact grant coordinator re: dashboard

NEXT - blooming Northfield

