

Town of Norridgewock

TIF Advisory Committee Minutes

April 27, 2021

Co-Chair Becky Ketchum called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM through Zoom, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §403-A. Committee. Committee Members Brandi Ireland, Jessie Everett, Drew Ketterer, Becky Ketchum and Sallie Wilder were present. Also, in attendance for all or parts of the meeting was Town Manager Richard LaBelle, Ruth Keister.

We reviewed the last meeting minutes and Drew made a motion to approve them as written, Sallie seconded and all were in favor.

Sallie and Becky wanted to talk about the Grange. There is a sign that they would like moved to in front of the grange. There was no cost presented for this at this time. Jessie made a motion for Becky to bring back an estimate of cost and we can chat once that is received. Drew seconded. All were in favor.

Broadband: There was an application submitted to expand service down Martin Stream and Beech Hill Rd. We will wait to see how that goes . The BOS voted on a study to be performed for under-serviced areas. The Town contributed \$3,200 from TIF funds for this study.

Christmas Tree acres: Richard has informed us that this building has been officially sold. It was a private purchase to a man in Madison.

Town Square: BOS denied landscape architect. They wanted us to come up with more specific ideas. The owner of 65 Main Street who will be presenting a Façade Application to fix the wall that faces the square. They plan to put dark green metal siding, new windows and replace the sill that is rotten. The prospective tenant is a nutritious shake vendor. There were lots of ideas about landscaping and walking trails but the items we need to decide on need to be maintained for free. Picnic tables were suggested but there already appears to be 1 or 2 there. We tabled this until we review the façade application to see exactly what they might want to do with the space as well.

John, Walking trail proposal: Becky suggested this might be a town funding project and not come out of TIF funds. She likes the idea but it doesn't serve the objectives of the TIF funds; Sallie agrees with Becky. She also thinks the area might not be the right spot for this walking trail. She mentioned hot top is expensive, we do want a walking trail but maybe we can come up with a different area. Drew suggested John makes another pitch to us at the next meeting. Possibly meet him at the site and have him walk us through his vision. This will be tabled for the next meeting.

Economic Development Goals: The BOS have been reflecting on why they are on the Board of Selectmen and what goals they have. They came up with economic development as their biggest reason. They have been talking about bringing in an Economic Development Coordinator. Someone who can help businesses in town and promote economic development. This person will be a recourse for the town. The position would be part time, they mentioned the TIF funds could pay for this salary each year. So, this person might be able to help with the airport project eventually.

Airport: Richard is going to gather some information from Al Benner Homes and touch base with Ken Morgan to get us some more definite numbers.

Brandi mentioned that teachers are in need of additional items. Jessie asked if there were still funds from the donations we collected. There is, but Richard thinks those items can be paid for another way. He will follow up with the teachers to see exactly what the need is.

Richard will send a Doodle poll about having a special meeting once the façade application comes in.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 25 at 4PM

Becky adjourned the meeting at 4:52

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Everett

Secretary, TIF Committee