

BRTF Revenue Subcommittee

Minutes of Meeting held 8/4/08, submitted by Marty Ragonas

Present: Marty Ragonas, chair, Jeffrey Beeler, Daniel Difelice, Radha Gargeya, Robert Haarde, Larry O'Brien

Absent: Paul Gannon, Jamie Gossels, Sam Merra

1. Motion to approve minutes of 7/7 and 7/21. Motion passed.
2. Large group meeting with subgroup updates as follows:

Commercial Development

Since any significant commercial development on Rte 20 depends on the installation of sewers, Bob Haarde presented estimates for both a 1.0 and 3.6 mile sewer system as well as cost/benefit analysis. Discussion and questions followed with thoughts about how to move this project forward. There was general discussion on desirable types of commercial development after sewer installation.

This sub-committee feels a first draft including research/recommendations is possible by the end of August.

Energy

Jeff Beeler indicated that data detailing energy costs for the past three yrs from all cost centers should be received this week. Types of clean energy being considered are solar, co-generation, wind and geo-thermal. Current cost center efforts on energy are conservation measures and some information gathering. General discussion involved explaining various technologies and issues involved with each.

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Wayland-Sudbury Septage/Sudbury Water District

Larry O'Brien gave a short update on the Wayland-Sudbury Septage. After some discussion, it was agreed that the BRTF Revenue subgroup should discontinue study of these two organizations for purposes of our report. When the sewer project gains traction, the Water District would be pulled in and perhaps organizational change might make sense at that point. The Selectmen are currently monitoring the Septage situation and will, if necessary, take action to protect the town's interests.

Fundraising

Radha Gargeya reported on one facet of the Sudbury Trust (charitable

donation program sponsored by town under consideration by Selectmen) that the BRTF will recommend. Restricted gifts will be solicited and used for the purpose it is given. A list of possible projects with approximate costs attached to them will be generated by the Town Mgr. Wealthy residents will be approached by a member of the Restricted Gifts Committee and asked to fund a project of their choice.

The ability to solicit donations via tax bills was explored. State regulations allow this for two reasons only: local scholarships for students and seniors who have trouble paying tax bills. Not viable for general fundraising.

Discussion on how to increase grants and find qualified writers took place.

This sub-committee feels a first draft including research/recommendations is possible by the end of August.

Legislative

This sub-group recommends a Legislative Initiative Committee be formed that has a list from all cost centers of the current pressing issues for the Town and schools. It will have meetings with state legislators and work with other lobbying organizations to form coalitions that lobby for our interests.

This sub-committee feels a first draft including research/recommendations is possible by the end of August.

3. Next meeting Monday, August 11. Meeting will proceed with subgroup meetings.