

BDC Agenda

Monday, April 7, 2025

City Hall Second Floor Conference Room

1:00PM

Present: Gene Wiemers, Bill Braman, Julie Ambrosino, Alexis Mann, Mandy Reynolds, Alex Zipparo, Miriam Johnson

Absent: Jim Hopkinson

Staff: Marc Meyers, Misty Parker

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Minutes of 1/7/2025, 2/5/2025, 3/5/2025 Meeting- Weimers motioned to approve the 1/7/2025, 2/5/2025, 3/5/2025 minutes; Braman seconded. All in favor.
2. Financial Report- Braman reviewed Q1 financials. Weimers motioned to adopt Braman's financial quarterly report; Mann seconded. All in favor. Meyers noted the financial report from the Finance Director is the official record and to be careful when presenting. Both should be included in BDC's review.
3. Review Meeting Time and Poll results- Full participation was missing from poll. Second Tuesday of the month at 2pm had 4 votes. Second Thursdays at 2-3 was agreed to. May 8th at 2pm will be the next meeting.
4. 2025 Work Plan
 - i. Loans & Marketing- Parker with follow up with Gabrielle Brown to confirm launch on City social media pages.
 - ii. Property Disposition Prep- Mann is working on similar projects in other communities. Anticipates developing an outline in a few months. Reynolds offered assistance to the project.
 - iii. Aligning work with City Committees- Housing Committee focused on finalizing short term rental regulations. Bath Housing and Bath Housing Development Corporation report shared with Committee. Highlighted housing development along Congress Ave Corridor and Centre St. Also occupied with understanding potential federal funding loss for housing subsidy and food security may be a future issue.

Community Development Committee- recently split to Housing Committee. CD Committee is revising their scope of work for consideration to Council. Public Art guidelines for City property; Evaluate TIFs, Assess inventory of abandoned properties and resolutions, review brownfield grant applications, Equity Assessment.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee- Focused on extending life of landfill. Advise Council on recycling as well. Currently focused on pilot project with UMaine, restaurant to go reuseable containers. Currently, identifying restaurants that may be interested in piloting this program. Opportunity to learn challenges or barriers to make the program successful. Advising on solid waste contractor and

composting contract. Contract with garbage to gardens for composting currently. Exploring local compost facility but has been tabled. Site location has delayed project. Solid waste contract is currently out to bid as the current renewal was not going to go out to bid. Interested in finding future ways to incorporate food waste into work. Wood scrap currently taken away for free but City pays the companies fuel. Biochar is being explored in Wiscasset. Use of City wood waste s being looked at as a resource.

Councilor Ambrosino will connect with Bike/Ped and CAC.

Economic Development- Reynolds will reach out.

Planning Board- BDC member Jim Hopkinson should provide

Facilities- Councilor Johnson will reach out.

iv. Development Corp Research

1. Freeport- Reynolds met with Tawnie Whitney, who also serves as Freeport Development Corp. Currently focused on tenant development and doing a lot of outreach to fill vacancies. Also serves as Chamber Director. Reynolds to follow up with more info. Has development Corp developed a process for their outreach?
2. Brunswick
3. Topsham
4. Others

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bylaw term limits- Proposed looking at longer terms. Next Months agenda to cover the item. Braman to draft.
2. Insurance Renewal – Meyers motioned to approve renewing; Ambrosino seconded- All in favor.
3. State corporation renewal – Parker will follow-up on.
4. Reynolds motioned to adjourn; Braman seconded. All in favor.