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TOWN OF CHELMSFORD
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**TOWN OF CHELMSFORD
VINAL SQUARE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2019

7:00 P.M. CALL TO ORDER

Members Present: Joe Tierney, Bill Vines, Janet Murphy, Kenny Pantuso, Michael Walsh

Others Present: Evan Belansky, Community Development Director
Kenneth Lefebvre, Board of Selectmen
Mike McCall, Asst. Town Manager

Chairman Tierney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Updates

Ms. Murphy reported on the Chowderfest held February 2, 2019, which is held every year as part of Winterfest. As in the past, the event was very well attended and the food was delicious.

Mr. Belansky reported that the Princeton Court project had been approved by the Planning Board at its last meeting. The neighbors and abutters were pleased with the overall project, he added.

Two applications from North Chelmsford businesses had been filed with the Business Improvement Grant program. The deadline was early February, and there were several applications from businesses all over Town. Interviews are scheduled for this week. Ms. Marrone and Ms. Descouteaux of the Merrimack Valley Small Business Center will review the applications and provide their recommendations to Mr. Cohen.

Mr. Walsh reported that he attended the most recent of meeting of the Route 40 Study Committee. The committee is not quite ready to submit a warrant article for Spring 2019 Town Meeting. The wish to present their ideas to the community in a public input session. The committee's focus is on limited commercial development and senior housing. This would require a zoning overlay. Pam Armstrong, the committee chair, presented this to the Selectmen recently. Mr. Walsh said the investors are attending the Route 40 meetings. He said he would have more information for our next meeting.

Mr. Belansky showed a proposal for tennis and pickle ball courts at Varney Park. The cost is \$103,000, of which the Community Preservation Committee would give \$95,000 toward the project through a Town Meeting warrant article. This committee asked for more detail and would like to discuss at the next meeting. Mr. Belansky will gather this information.

Renderings of new way finding logos were presented. Members reviewed several options and continued to express preference for a design featuring the mill buildings and the red water wheel. These will be forward to Mr. Favermann to tweak for final selections at the next meeting.

Regarding the asphalt plant, Mr. McCall stated that a truck exclusion is not feasible on Route 40 which is a State road, nor are speed bumps on this roadway.

Mr. Lefebvre discussed the contribution that Mr. Harvey has committed to make for Varney Park improvements. The committee should have a discussion as to how such funding could be spent.

Mr. Tierney asked for a breakdown of the funds in the Vinal Square Strategic Action Plan Account, showing all income and expenses. It is estimated that there is about \$1,500 in the account. Mr. Belansky will provide this for our next meeting.

The possibility for charging non-residents to use Varney

Park was again discussed, along with how such a paying program would be implemented.

The UMass Lowell campus in Chelmsford is going up for auction. The Housing Authority may bid on the property.

Next Meeting Date. The next meeting will be Thursday, April 4, 7 p.m. Location to be confirmed.

Mr. Tierney moved to approve the draft meeting minutes of December 3, 2018 and January 14, 2019. Mr. Pantuso seconded. Unanimous.

There being no further business, Mr. Vines moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Pantuso. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Murphy