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**TOWN OF BELMONT
FINANCIAL TASK FORCE
REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES SUB GROUP**

Minutes: Wednesday, December 3, 2014, Town Hall Conference Room #4, 5:00PM
Present: Floyd Carman, Daniel A Dargon Jr, Anne Helgen, Jim Williams
Absent: Charles Clark, Charles R. Laverty III
Other: Michael Trainor

Floyd Carman called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

Old Business

Motion to approve minutes of the October 1, 2014 meeting as amended passed unanimously.

Final Report Summary Review

Floyd Carman presented a draft copy of the Final Report Summary. While more detailed information regarding the Sub Group's recommendations will be available by request, the Summary will be used during the presentation to the Board of Selectmen in order to deliver the recommendations in the most concise, effective means possible. Once the recommendations have been presented to the Board of Selectmen, the Sub Group will seek additional input from the general public.

The recommendations will be prioritized throughout a three-year implementation plan. A separate category will be created for ongoing priorities that extend beyond the three-year plan. Floyd Carman will write the first draft of this prioritization list.

The following revenue generating strategies must be edited or updated in order to complete the Final Report Summary.

Parking Revenue (assigned to Floyd Carman)

Implementing the increased parking meter and permit rates has been pushed back to February 1, 2015, in order to allow more time to write the new policy and inform the necessary parties of the rate change.

Although outside parties were already seeking to expand the amount of Zip Car locations in Belmont, the final report will note that the Sub Group assisted in collecting the necessary data to justify the increased inventory.

While no formal requests have been received thus far, it is expected that business owners in Belmont Center will request the Town to offer half day parking passes for their part-time employees to purchase.

PILOT Programs (assigned to Charles Laverty)

Anne Helgen was informed prior to the meeting that the Town has been granting the Belmont Hill School complimentary use of Town tennis courts. Michael Trainor will contact June Howell

from the Recreation Department to determine which tennis courts are being used by Belmont Hill School and for which days during the year. This action falls under the Final Report Summary recommendation to define and document direct services provided by the Town for each non-profit organization. The Sub Group can conduct this research for the Town, but the School Committee will need to compile a list of school assets and services that are being provided to non-profit organizations free of charge.

Anne Helgen suggested approaching Belmont Hill School for financial assistance in order to repair the Winn Brook and Pequossette tennis courts, instead of relying solely on the Town's CPA fund. Given Belmont Hill School's vested interest in these community assets, this may be a more successful approach than using the conventional PILOT Program.

New Growth Opportunity South Pleasant Street (assigned to Charles Clark)

Charles Clark will write the recommendation for this revenue generating strategy, separately identifying the financial opportunities and the barriers that would prevent the Town from capitalizing on such opportunities.

Anne Helgen suggested expanding the focus to include the Valley Crest Landscaping location at 1010 Pleasant St, as well as the Star Market property in Waverley Square.

Sale of Town Owned Parcels (assigned to Dan Dargon)

Dan Dargon will provide a list of the smaller Town owned properties that are only of value to the abutting property owners; determine whether there is a deed restriction for the property at 130 Orchard St; research the ownership and value of the property abutting the incinerator site; and confirm with the Board of Assessors that the property at 751 Pleasant St is "unbuildable."

Floyd Carman will contact Ellen Cushman to determine if there is a deed restriction for the property located at 248 Mill St.

Other Growth Opportunities (assigned to Charles Clark)

Anne Helgen suggested adding, as part of the final recommendations, that the school department examine their existing rental contracts to determine if they are adequately covering their costs.

Parks and Recreation Opportunities (assigned to Anne Helgen)

The following updates were made to the goals of this revenue generating strategy:

- "Generate opportunities to cover the costs of the wide array of existing Recreation programs."
- Hiring of the Recreation Director was also removed from the "Goals" section and placed under "Recommendations".

Other Revenue Opportunities

The recommendation for pursuing the Naming Rights Policy will read as follows:

- The Board of Selectmen and School Committee should determine whether to pursue implementing a joint policy for naming rights and issue a position paper.
- Create a task force to study the naming rights policies of other communities, potentially using existing naming rights policies as a model for Belmont.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 7, 2015 at 5:00PM, Town Hall Conference Room 4.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Trainor