

**Bristol CORE Meeting Minutes**  
**10-08-2020**

**Attendees: Ian, Kelly, Valerie, Taylor, Maura, and Aiden**

**A. Bristol Promotional/Recovery Events**

-September Sidewalk Sale – Initial sidewalk sale was a successful experience for all businesses reporting that it was one of the best days for 2020 so far.

-October 17 Fall Sidewalk Sale – CORE will handle more marketing and hoping for a similar turnout and success for our local businesses.

- Restart Vermont Regional Marketing And Stimulus Grant Program - “10-Day, 35K Giveaway”  
Successfully received \$10,000 to support Bristol in this three-town collaboration. Chamber of Commerce is helping with marketing and has already started efforts. We’ll have 300 envelopes with various local currencies to be distributed to promote across the three towns. The Bank of Middlebury would like to have more security precautions to allow for tracking and Ian is working on the reprint of additional Bristol Bucks. Promotion will run Nov 5-Nov 14.

-Radio Campaign for Bristol – Maura shared that the radio campaign is going to start up for November and December. Ian will follow-up with Carol about adding the promotion. Taylor suggests about asking if the radio might host from present.

**B. Coffee and Conversation for Bristol Business Owners**

- Next meeting October 14, 8:30 am on the town green – Keeping this going as we’ve had good attendance and helping with communication. Thinking about how to continue on in the colder months.

**C. Financial Statement**

- current profit and loss – Continued loss due to co-working and salary expenses. A couple members did not renew and Ian is continuing to meet with folks with new interest. And Ian will have a conversation with Barb about the lease. The Post Office box cost for CORE increased significantly and Ian was told that the appraisal of the town is tied to the PO Box but it doesn’t make sense to Valerie.

**D. Coworking Space**

- Status update – See above. 3 dedicated desk spaces currently with about 2 people using every day. Potential to reconfigure the conference room space if we need more dedicated space. Space is cleaned every month.

**E. Town of Bristol**

-Main Street Lighting & Sidewalk Improvements – Coming to a close with final punchlist walk through to be scheduled. Ian is keeping a list of final tasks for the construction crew...water pooling issues in the parking spaces that will need to be dealt with. The striping has been completed so hopefully the lampposts will be better protected. There remains some pooling in front of Wallace Realty/Island Girl that needs to be addressed. Ian has had a conversation with a local resident who uses a walker to

understand accessibility issues with the sidewalks and really think about universal design to the greatest extent possible.

-Bristol Pedestrian Path Scoping Study – the application for Munsill sidewalk was submitted last Friday for scoping and preliminary layout by an engineer. The case seems to be strong. Dry wells will be installed in Spring 2021 to address some pooling issues. \$30,000 grant with a likely November timeline.

-Valerie is currently working on final design and construction for Basin Street to address multiple issues. It will be a big-ticket item – will require multiple funding sources.

-Stony Hill Scoping Study has been completed and presented at a Selectboard a few weeks ago. While the scoping study didn't present the sidewalk option along the road as a short term option, a sidewalk will still be preferred for neighborhood connection as future development takes place. Three viable options to pursue future funding options.

-Emerald Ash Borer Committee – The committee received the training and will be identifying and evaluating all of the ash trees within town and the village between now and trying to get preliminary recommendations by December in preparation for budget for tree maintenance. Street trees are very important to the downtown and village. Alex will be working

-Taylor shares about upcoming Bristol Rec events:

- Every Friday we'll be hosting retro horror movies outside on the Rec Fields.
- Pumpkin Carving on the Green on Halloween
- Concert on the Green – Local Teen Band on Saturday Night.
- Haunted Walk – Cousino's on 116
- Scooter Competition on Oct 24<sup>th</sup> – pro scooter prizes with funds to do upkeep on skate park due to increased use.
- Monday night street hockey to shift to ice hockey
- Partnership with Catamount Trail Association with cross country skiing with the Hub on Fridays for anyone when there is snow on the ground.

#### **F. Board Roundtable Discussion**

- Ideas for the December month – coupon book, punchcard
- Brainstorm ideas that are socially distant to incentivize shopping local that are an ode to the original events.
- Lumen – could have fire and food on Main Street. Ian will talk to Jess about ideas.
- Partnership with Farmhouse Chocolates – could be a giveaway similar to the 35K giveaway.
- Maura asks about the Midd Bank promotion if that's happening again and possible tie with Chocolate Light.
- Thinking about lights, wreaths/garlands, and windows along Main Street. Taylor offers to help coordinate!

**Next Meeting – Nov 12, 2020**

