

**MINUTES OF THE
DEPOT VILLAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DVAC)
REGULAR MEETING OF January 14, 2025
Salem Depot, 81 Main St, Salem, NH Knightly Room**

PRESENT: Roy Sorenson (Municipal Services Director) Cindi Woodbury (Chamber) Paul Pelletier (Town Council)

Also Present: Joe Sweeney, Gail Corman, Corinne Gordon, Dennis Corman, Crayton Brubaker, Dave Topham, Larry Belair (by phone), Joe Devine, John Vogl

CALL TO ORDER: Member Sorenson called the meeting to order at 3:00

R. Sorenson led the members in a site walk of the Depot properties at the corner of Main Street and South Broadway starting at 3:00. Members reviewed the site bounds and existing conditions and were briefed on the upcoming Veterans Plaza plans. The goal was to walk the site with our consultants and provide direction and goals for improvements.

R. Sorenson called the formal meeting to order at 3:20 pm in the lower floor of the Depot building. Members reviewed the maps of the area, following the site walk. R. Sorenson explained that the Engineering Department was reaching out to Liberty Utilities regarding a lot line adjustment to square off the boundary and that work would continue through the coming months. He introduced Tighe and Bond consultants Robert Uhlig and Gordon Leedy. G. Leedy and R. Uhlig explained that they were there to listen to ideas from the members and take notes and try to find way to incorporate ideas into a plan. Members expressed ideas as follows:

R. Sorenson – ideal includes rest room building for rail trail use. Sewer/water/power is available to 1 N. Broadway and 80 Main Street. Building could include potential lease space for retail/service business. Site should be enhanced with art and garden space. Further, he reminded the members that 80 Main Street was purchased using Rec funds and that recreation should be a prime component.

G. Leedy clarified that the uses should complement the Rail Trail. R. Uhlig asked about informal community entertainment. Members expressed that this was a goal as the site could complement the Tuscan Village experience and that it would act as a destination for the entire rail trail, given the centrality from both Windham and Methuen.

Other ideas included: additional parking for Rail trail (with the assumption that other had competing rights to the town spaces on Central St), gardens on 1 N Broadway, historic markers/signage, bike/ped amenities, music/sound amenities, corn hole area.

Next meeting to include draft plan ideas from R. Uhlig and G. Leedy.

Motion by Member J. Vogl to adjourn, second by L. Belair

Minutes by: John Vogl