

**LUDLOW ENTERPRISE FUND COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

**Town Hall Conference Room
December 14, 2011**

Board Members Present:

Jim Fuller, Bruce Williams, Doug Ficken, Frank Heald, Bruce Schmidt, Jim Rumrill

Others Present:

Brigit Sullivan, Sharon Bixby, Patrick Cody

Call to Order:

Frank Heald called the regular meeting of the Ludlow Enterprise Fund Committee to order at 4:00 pm.

Approve Minutes:

MOTION by Jim Fuller and seconded by Jim Rumrill to accept the minutes from September 20, 2011. All in favor and the motion passed.

Review Fund Balance:

- a. Frank Heald reported there is an unaudited fund balance of \$31,729.18.
- a. Frank Heald said the LEF Committee will need to confirm the annual contribution to the Public Safety Building.
- b. MOTION by Doug Ficken and seconded by Jim Fuller to confirm the LEF annual expenditure and allocation of \$43,250 to the Public Safety Building. All in favor and the motion passed.
- c. Frank Heald reminded members that the LEF Committee serves to make recommendations to the Select Board, Village Trustees and Water Commission for their approval.

Consider Applications LEF Applications:

- a. Frank Heald said the committee has two applications before them:
 - Black River Academy Museum - \$15,000
 - LPC-TV - \$35,000
- b. Frank Heald reviewed the past LEF commitments:
 - Public Safety - \$380,000
 - Parks & Recreation - \$99,207
 - Fletcher Library - \$63,085
 - Streetscapes - \$39,840
 - Black River Academy Museum - \$27,000
 - Ludlow Elementary School - \$19,000
 - Black River Good Neighbor Services – \$9,216
 - FOLA - \$350

- c. Frank Heald said he had received funding recommendations from members who were unable to attend the meeting. He said Marji Graf and Fred Glover support funding for LPC-VT and Ted Reeves said he was ok with what Frank and the committee decided.
- d. Bruce Schmidt asked the committee if they could discuss LPC-TV's request first. He said he felt they were in need of a stronger financial commitment and was not in favor of splitting up the funding requests as the committee has done in the past.
- e. Bruce Schmidt said the committee should consider doing everything they possibly can to help LPC-TV get into the new facility because their down time will have a direct impact on the community and programing.
- f. Frank Heald asked to hear more about LPC-TV's finances.
- g. Brigit Sullivan said they have raised \$95,000 toward the project and would need \$20-\$25,000 in order for them to occupy the building. She said they have met with contractors and are close to the final numbers, but with the flood it has been difficult to get bids. She anticipated an early January start with 6-8 weeks to finish and be able to occupy the building in mid to late February.
- h. Sharon Bixby said she wears two hats – one for LPC-TV and one for the Black River Academy Museum. She believed the Museum's elevator was now fully funded, so they will only need additional monies for other ADA compliance.
- i. Brigit Sullivan said LPC-TV's new studio will provide more space and room for classes, music, bands, studio recording and expanded programming opportunities. She said a number of BRHS students have gone on to further their education in film and production because of their time with LPC-TV.
- j. Frank Heald asked how the development of Jackson Gore has impacted LPC-TV.
- k. Brigit Sullivan said they work closely with the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce to promote the area and they have their own on air program. She said it is also difficult to find retail space in this community because they have specific needs with high ceilings. She said civic organizations and community organizations also use their services.
- l. Frank Heald said the LPC-TV application was dated February 15, 2011 so he asked if they could provide an updated budget.
- m. Brigit said they had a \$200,000 goal, but \$125,000 would get them into the building and other bells and whistles could come at a later time.
- n. Frank Heald said the LEF money should be the last money to go into the building fund so they will be able to occupy the building and not have to come back again needing more money.
- o. Patrick Cody said with the trailer that Wright Construction provided and thanks to Cota & Cota assisting with their heating needs, they will be able to offer classes to teach people for the next 8 weeks.
- p. Jim Fuller said the committee should consider giving \$31,000 to LPC-TV because the need is far greater than the Black River Academy Museum.
- q. Jim Rumrill said he agreed.
- r. Bruce Williams said he feels much better because he knows the move for LPC-TV was not comfortable. He said LPC-TV has great value to the community.
- s. Sharon Bixby said it was her understanding that the Museum had met their goal to complete the elevator.
- t. MOTION by Bruce Schmidt and seconded by Doug Ficken to recommend LPC-TV receive \$31,000 from the Ludlow Enterprise Fund and for the motion to reflect that we understand this is not normal to fund such a large amount, but this is an extenuating circumstance involving a lot of factors. All in favor and the motion passed

- u. Patrick Cody, Brigit Sullivan and Sharon Bixby thanked the Ludlow Enterprise Fund Committee.

Other Business:

- a. Jim Fuller asked if this was the last year of the LEF.
- b. Frank Heald said this was payment #9 of 12 years so there are three years remaining.

Adjourn:

- a. MOTION by Doug Ficken and seconded by Bruce Schmidt to adjourn. All in favor and the motion passed.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Cruickshank
Acting Clerk