Introduction & Moderator- Darren

Updated on Buffalo Main Street Initiative: Darren

- Discussion regarding gap financing
- Reevaluating Target area- can it shift to include other areas?
- Unique issues specific to the area
- Reaffirming commitment to corridor
- Concentration b/t Dartmouth and Westminster

Discussion around:

1. Organization’s capacity to implement grant
2. Are they ready to get off the ground- meaning if they get the money are they ready to proceed with projects

Review of Timeline:

- Grant is a 2 year process
- Waiting on an application timeline agreement
- Submit the application – once grant is approved businesses can complete the application and submit to the UDCDA application committee for review
- Business owners will have to illustrate need for funds on the application
- Business owners who have additional financial resources to offer should indicate on application
- Darren is available to work with business owners on bridge loan applications
- Baseline funding is $50,000 (commercial/business) with the potential for an additional $25K (the Max amt. that can be applied for by the UDCDA is $350K)
- Money can be used for façade work, lighting, signage, windows, roof, siding – exterior changes
- The amounts given to each applicant will be based on committee rate and scoring system.
- No Cash payments for any work performed
- Send out bid for work to contractors- cannot be performed by owner
- Environmental review will be done of each bldg.
Watts Architecture -

- Will provide feasibility study
- Adaptive reuse or rehab-
- Provide resources to make decisions
- Look at properties
- What makes the most sense
- Historic and architecture analysis
- Review of any structural issues
- Bldg. code analysis

*** Business owners decided they wanted Jason (Watts Archit) to visit their businesses before they completed their applications. Roxanne was going to find out if that process would be allowed.

NEXT STEP: Check with the State to determine when work can start.....