

UDCDA Meeting

January 6, 2016

6:00 pm

Attendees: Roseann, Darren, Mike, Minh Tran, Annette, Dominic, Paul & Linda, Hyacinth, Ibrahim,

Guests: Jason, Watts Architecture; Roxanne Kise & Beth Kravetz, Roxanne Kise Consulting

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.....