



***Safety Working Group
Minutes
12/21/21 6PM***

Attendance:

Members:

Tina Bradbury

Diane Welch

Kate Howard

Al Grinstead

Carla Wilson

Councilman Anderson

Guests:

Harold Stafford

Opening: Al Grinstead gave his resignation to the committee and said he has enjoyed his working with everyone. He stated that he had a conflict with the DDP Management/board member and how things are being handled so he is also no longer on the DDP Board of Directors. Lastly, he stated that due to the problems they were having with DDP among other issues they have decided that they will be closing their store in January.

Harold for HELP Initiative gave a presentation on a new energy efficiency grant that will be available in early 2022 for business owners. It was decided that the committee will review a list of businesses at the January meeting that we think should be a good recommendation to start with.

There was a discussion on business recruitment and retention and what is being done. I explained that with the pandemic we are seeing the worst of things currently; and these next few months are going to be challenging. I also explained that there will be a new grant program coming out from the County in January that will be able to assist the current businesses. I did explain our main challenge with the vacant properties not being lease ready and our dealings with the landlords. Diana Welch stated she thinks the vacant building ordinance really needs to be looked at and that this committee should do something. I explained that would have to be discussed at an Economic Vitality committee meeting and she is welcome to come and discuss as that is not in the works of the Safety Committee.

There was a discussion on inviting some merchants to be on the Safety committee and working to appoint a new Chair of the committee. Carla stated that she would work to invite new members.