# BRANDON AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE March 27, 2014

Call to order - The meeting opened at 8:30

Present: Alyssa Zollman, Jeff Stewart, Linda Stewart, Bernie Carr, Marty Feldman, Robin Bennett, Stephanie Jerome

Minutes – Motion made by J. Stewart/ Carr to approve the minutes. Passed

## Carr/Beck Visit with Elnicki concerning Smith Block:

Carr discussed the meeting with Kevin and Stephanie Elnicki that suggested a desire to move forward on the Smith Block project, but they want help from the town, or some assurance that they will not be on the loosing end after the work is done.

Jeff Stewart will contact Leanne Tingay for recommendations moving forward without Steve Beck and also with Caitlin Corkins, concerning Smith Block qualifications for new tax credit incentives.

Robin Bennett spoke about TIFs, tax credits, and how many are allowable per year and circumstance in which they are doled out.

Marty Feldman suggested that Elnicki was more likely to sell than developed the property.

All discussed the best way forward on presenting a complete package that would motivate development of property in a timely manner as well as know what the town can offer others in the future.

## Tubbs bldg-

Linda Stewart will to talk to manager at site to determine Woodchuck Cider's plans for space as they finish their new facility in Middlebury.

#### Other

Bernie to follow up on a lead with the Middlebury Coop board person as to their interest in opening a branch in Brandon.

Stephanie and Alyssa discussed promoting the schools better as a

driver for new families and potential business to discover Brandon's assets.

All discussed qualities and support needed for Steve's successor. Including aggressiveness, strong marketing skills and being proactive.

### Farmers Mold and Machine Works Inc.

Bernie will follow up with Jamie Stewart to determine if there are any opportunities for Brandon considering their legal problems.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45

Next meeting: April 17. 8:30 am Stephen Douglas House