

Meeting called to order at 8:35 p.m. Ray Soderberg, Sherry Loving, Clara Winch, Ben Douds, Dawn Hipsley and Commissioner Baker were in attendance.

Ben brought up different surveys that we can do for the town such as: enumerated population of Walkersville is 5800. Property values divided by square acreage, pedestrian counts, jobs per thousands of people, businesses per capita, land value (property value - improvements). These are things that might help us with our survey. Discussion was had about the 5 largest businesses in Walkersville and how do we decipher what makes this list. Obviously, Lonza would be the top of the list. Gary will ask Gloria how they determine that, is it by taxes paid or how does Walkersville determine that? Ray suggested Hercules would be on that list as well.

Ray handed out the draft of the Survey:

1. Name of business
2. Location
3. Owner
4. Is owner a town resident
5. Phone
6. Website
7. Number of employees
8. Year established
9. What brought your business to Walkersville
10. What makes Walkersville a difficult place for business
11. What would make Walkersville a better place for business
12. What types of businesses would you like to see in Walkersville that aren't here or what businesses would you like to see more of?
13. What kind of assets are missing in Walkersville? Buildings, parking, services, etc.
14. Are you involved in any local business organizations?
15. Is this your only location?
16. Own or rent?

Sherry brought up some of her reasonings for opening in Walkersville as opposed to downtown Frederick. Cost being the number one plus. Ray asked that we each take it home and email him with

further suggestions.

Website: Kim is waiting on more content to move forward with the website. They are looking for pictures (Russ took some), they would like bios (Gary did his). Nothing further to update at this time. Gary to ask Gloria what other content is needed at this time. Gary has FAQ list from Gloria, Ben asked him to email them to everyone so we can make additions.

Business processes: Ben suggested we look at doing a flow chart on how to open a business in Walkersville. Ben will start the process for this, starting with what the town requirements are.

What does the town actually issue as far as licensing and permits. Gary will ask Gloria on that as well. There seems to be a lot of flexibility, but where do we have to be ardent about the rules. Possibly a welcome letter and a list of Walkersville do's and don'ts.

Sherry requested that if we have anything "Walkersville Pride" to please post it on the Facebook page. Walkersville got the most snow got 3,300 clicks...so that's what people are interested in. We talked about boosting future posts for big community events, such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Spring Bazaar and Walkersville Days. Clara will ask FCB and Allshred about a town sponsored shred day.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42.