

**NEWPORT CITY DOWNTOWN RENAISSANCE PROJECT
WORKING GROUP MEETING**

1:30 – 3pm ~ November 21, 2006

		<i>Action Requested</i>
	<p><u>Attendance:</u> Elwood Guyette/Newport City Mayor, Tim Hamblett/Pick & Shovel, Sherry Norris/The Landing Clothing Store, Tina Norton/Chittenden Bank, Heather Sevigny/North Country Chamber of Commerce, John Ward/Newport City Manager, Rick Woodward/Mymood Properties; Patricia Sears/Downtown Coordinator</p> <p><u>Guests:</u> Alison Meaders/NVDA, Bob Kelley/Newport City Zoning Administrator, Steve Mason/NEKTI Consulting</p> <p><u>Sadly missed:</u> Olivia Bebeau/Gilman Housing Trust</p>	
Newport City Downtown's Assets and Needs	Members of the Working Group listed a number of assets (Lake Memphremagog, four-season sports, architecture, interstate access, Jay Peak Resort, Goodrich Library, Hebard State Building, Eastern Townships of Quebec) and needs (a resort on the lake, more hotel beds, a tourist boat on the lake, retail business in the State Building)	
Board of Directors	A board of directors for the Newport City Downtown organization will be formed by June 2007; then the organization will be registered as a nonprofit with the Vermont Secretary of State	<p><i>Trish will organize the process of incorporating as a nonprofit, including getting template of by-laws from other downtown projects in VT.</i></p> <p><i>The Working Group will recommend candidates for board members.</i></p>
Downtown Special Event	<p>The first of a series of Newport City Downtown Community Summits was scheduled for Wednesday, January 24, 2007.</p> <p>The event will start at 6pm and will be catered. Childcare will be provided.</p> <p>The event will be held at the Gateway Center.</p>	<p><i>Trish will meet with Joss Besse/VT Downtown Program to discuss the special event and how it should be organized.</i></p> <p><i>The next meeting of the Working Group will be devoted to planning the event.</i></p>

The next meeting will be December 28th or January 3rd at 1pm in the City Council Room.

Patricia Sears, Downtown Coordinator
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