

Letters to the editor

Momentum is growing for Newport City's renaissance

To the editor:

On Wednesday, January 24, over 70 people attended the Newport City Downtown Renaissance Project's kick-off community forum at the Gateway on the shores of Lake Memphremagog in Newport. About one-third of the participants signed up with their commitment to work on one of three committees (economic restructuring, design or promotion).

In spite of plummeting temperatures that were frigid, the room warmed up over the course of three hours and you could feel the momentum growing. Teams of people passionate for Newport City's success will address making Newport a destination; enhance Newport's access to wireless high-speed Internet service; promote "buy local first" in downtown Newport; address Newport City's infrastructure (street lighting, parking); enhance Newport's aesthetics (flags, flowers,

façade), and marketing, marketing, marketing.

Thank you to all of you who could attend the kick-off meeting! We will keep in touch and move the project forward with planning that is strategic, followed by efficient execution and implementation that will result in sustainable development.

We welcome and encourage all who care about Newport City and are willing to work for its promise to realize its position as the jewel city of the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Call me (334-5136) or send an e-mail (pmsears@gmail.com) for more information on how you can be a part of the Newport City Downtown Renaissance Project.

Cheers!

Patricia M. Sears

Newport City Downtown Coordinator
Newport