



Board Meeting Minutes September 20th, 2021

<p><i>Minutes Approval: 10/18/21</i></p>	<p><i>Yea: Sandra, Jen, Andrew, Ben, John, Erika, Ryan, Lydia</i></p>	<p><i>Nay: none Abstaining: none Missing: Jared, Ron, Bill</i></p>
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Attendees: Jared Reynolds, Sandra May, Ron Merrill, Andrew Heath, Bill Yacopucci, Ben Braggins, John Cassel, Erika Rydberg, Ryan Shirilla, Lydia West

Apologies: Jen Cook

This month's victories include the new faces at Open House following Market Days and the city unanimously voting to support our application for a CDBG Microgrant for feasibility planning. Also, we have been given the gift of three days of marketing space next to the NHGuild at the NHHome show; Ron advised that our Market Days presentation had brought us to the attention of the showrunners.

Minutes for August, 2021 were approved with a motion from Ben, a second from Lydia, and a yes from all board members present save Bill, whose vote was unknown in our hybrid setting.

We discussed our need to re-rent several private offices that are becoming vacant this fall; Ron suggested we re-run the prior successful Facebook ad. Several members contributed additional ideas for increasing our membership around the holidays.

Ron asked to discuss a project he has secured financial backing for, which is to teach a group of children how to assemble electric guitar kits. He is in talks with the Friends program about this.

Jared briefed the board on the status of the micro planning grant we are pursuing from the CDFA. We are looking to flesh out the specific needs of the Merrimack Valley region for business incubation and support. The Hannah Grimes center is an example of a space that receives financial support for each new business nurtured. The intent of potential further funding from the CDFA would be to help low-and-medium income businesses succeed; our location in Penacook may be helpful. Sandra asked for a link to the prior 2017 study we would be building on. The board will assess our own capacity to expand our business offerings while we await the results of the new study. We will also review whether additional grants could be a springboard to getting our first space employee.

Sandra asked for volunteers and off stage help with the upcoming Route 3 Art Trail. In particular, demonstrators are needed. Lydia will check in with Claude regarding possible Guild help and Sandra will ask Connor Sporn if she is available.

The board entered Executive Session at 7:25 pm.