

Raymond Revitalization Committee Proposal

ESTABLISH COMMITTEE:

1. To choose committee of volunteers with interests in Raymond's future with basic goal of townspeople choosing its future, rather than evolution doing so.
2. Analyze members strengths, interests, ideas, to accomplish goal.
3. Immediate goals of broadening tax base, creating new jobs, to capture residents and current business operators ideas and dreams and pursue action on those we can influence, build community pride.
4. Study and encourage current business operators to expand, and study benefit of choosing town and business identity.

ORIGINAL PROJECT DIVISIONS:

1. Inventory of existing businesses
2. Capacity inventory of local skills, talents, and interests, of residents
3. Associational inventory of existing non profits, and volunteer groups existing within community their function, capacity, and needs, and how they can be blended, expanded, and work together benefiting the greater community
4. Idea inventory of local economic opportunities, needs, and dreams
5. Inventory of situations which could benefit from Grant activity
6. Develop survey material

RECOGNITION OF CURRENT COMMUNITY ASSETS:

1. On one of Maine's major and busiest highways.
2. Evidence of community pride shown by street lighting project, floral decorated business area highway, Veterans Park, community website, town and community support of library, museum, local volunteer activity.
3. A general cooperative community spirit.
4. A realistic awareness of competitive position in regional area.
5. Considerable knowledge of physical environment resulting from CIPIC work.
6. Strong current presence of non-profit and volunteer support.
7. Traditional communities careful use of fiscal resources.
8. A conviction the community benefits from directing it's long term plan from within the community rather than leave it to outside sources.

RECOGNIZE THE THREE FUNDAMENTAL PARTS TO ANY BUSINESS:

1. Is to provide a product or service.
2. To market idea, product or service.
3. To obtain financing for same.

QUICK RULE FOR PURSUING DEVELOPMENT IDEAS:

1. Do you like product or service?
2. Can it make a profit?
3. Is there a current market?
4. Are startup costs low or affordable?
5. Is idea manageable by you, or who?