

Brookline, NH Economic Development

Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1
Winter 2016

Second Brookline & Merrimack Valley Chili/Chowder/Soup Cook-Off

Sunday, February 21, 2015
Brookline Event Center
32 Proctor Hill Road (Route 130)
Noon - 3:00 pm

Chili/Chowder/Soup Cook-Off

Doors open at noon
Judging will begin at noon!

Tickets at the door:
\$8 adults
\$5 under 12yrs

Raffle at 2:45 pm



SECOND

With the Participation of



Last year, the Cook-Off, previously organized by the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce, moved to Brookline and what a great success it was! The event that took place at the Event Center welcomed over 100 visitors who tasted and enjoyed many delicious and warming dishes. **None left hungry!**

This year again, restaurateurs and amateurs from Southern New Hampshire and Northern Massachusetts will be competing during the second Brookline Cook-Off for one of the three categories: **Chili, Chowder or Soup**. They all are looking forward to serving the best warm concoctions you will ever taste! A Feast for the Senses!

All visitors will be eligible to win prizes donated by local restaurants and competitors. The raffle will be drawn at 2:45 pm.

Bring your friends and family! Let your neighbors and co-workers know! Participate in the judging by filling out a voting ballot! Have a good time and enjoy some of the best chilies, chowders and soups in the Merrimack and Souhegan Valley!

Visit the Brookline Website for more information.
Look under "[Town News](#)" (top right) on the home page or
under [Economic Development](#) and click on the attachments.

Annual Meeting Dates:

- **All Day Voting:** Tuesday, March 08 - 7am-7:30pm
- **Town Meeting:** Wednesday, March 09
- **Brookline School District:** Thursday, March 10
- **Coop:** Wednesday, March 23

All meetings start at 7:00 pm

Inside this issue:

- 2015 EDC Report 2
- Meet Brookline Businesses (Series) 3
 - Hour Mechanic
 - Living Earth Farm
- Planning Department Update & Proposed Zoning Amendments 4
- Overview of 2016 Town Budget 4
- Brookline Chapel 4
- Overview of Annual Meetings 5
- Annual Meeting, Cont. 6
- Positions Available 6
- SVCC 7
- Welcome Packet 7
- Promote your Business - (We can help!) 8
- Brookline Website & Business Directory 8

2015 Economic Development Committee Report

The Year in Review

Since chartered In April 2012, the Economic Development Committee (EDC) has met once a month and continued to have individual and successful interactions with Brookline business owners and organizations.

The EDC had a very busy year organizing two great events that received a lot of success!

The first ***Chili-Chowder-Soup Cook-Off*** was held in February at the Event Center. Restaurateurs and Amateurs competed by cooking their best creations! Residents and area visitors kept coming to sample the wonderful concoctions until the very last minute! It was a fun and “delicious” time. Considering the success it received, the EDC decided to make the event a tradition. The ***second Cook-Off*** will be on Sunday, February 21st 2016 from noon to 3:00 pm. See you then!

Small towns can achieve great things! The first ***Brookline Bridal Show*** took place in October and was very successful! 34 exhibitors set up amazing booths for future couples, their families and friends to visit during the 4-hour long show that welcomed over 100 guests!

The ***Brookline Bridal Show Facebook page*** was created for the event.

The Bridal Show had everything for future couples to prepare their big day: Gowns & Accessories, Flowers, Limo, Makeup, Honeymoon, Photography, Venues, Catering, Jewelry, Photobooth, Gifts, Rentals, Wellness, Hairstyle, and more! The Brookline Bridal Show had some of the best vendors in the area! The EDC has already scheduled the ***second Brookline Bridal Show*** that will be held on Sunday, October 2nd, 2016 from noon to 3:00 pm.

The EDC continued working on promoting the ***Brookline Chapel*** and set up an Open House on the same day the Bridal Show was held. A few visitors decided to reserve the Chapel for their wedding ceremony! The “***Wedding Guide***” that was created a couple of years ago includes pictures of the edifice and of a “real” wedding ceremony. The guide provides all the necessary steps in order to get married in New Hampshire. The wedding guide is available at the Town Hall and on the Brookline website.

Did you know? The Chapel is also available for many other types of events or celebrations such as christenings, concerts or art expos!

A ***short video*** on the chapel was created and can be viewed on the ***Brookline Bridal Show Facebook page*** and on the Brookline website.

In order to keep Brookline Residents and Businesses informed of our efforts, the EDC publishes a quarterly ***Newsletter*** that is being distributed to all post office routes and boxes. Many businesses, organizations and committees have offered their support by providing articles and photos – Another great way to put their name

out there and get some “publicity”! The newsletters are all available on the Brookline website which is being viewed by many people and organizations outside Brookline! We want them to know what a great town Brookline is, to live and work.

This year again, the “***Welcome Packet***” with valuable information about Town services, Boards & Committees, Clubs, and local resources has been offered to all new Brookline residents. Many Brookline entrepreneurs are taking the opportunity to advertise their business by providing coupons and promotional materials that are included in the packet. Since created in 2013, the packets have received so many positive comments. Welcome Packets are available at the Town Hall.

The Committee renewed its membership with the ***Southern Valley Chamber of Commerce***. Again this year, the Town of Brookline, represented by the EDC, was among the numerous exhibitors at the ***Southern New Hampshire Business Expo*** that took place in November at the ***Hampshire Dome*** in Milford promoting the Town and its businesses. Brookline business owners took this opportunity to let the EDC display their brochures, business cards, and other promotional materials. The Expo, held on a Saturday, attracted a very large crowd of visitors and the EDC booth was busy all day long! Our presence was valued by the many Brookline residents and business owners as well as by many visitors from surrounding towns.

The EDC encourages Brookline Businesses to get involved and contribute to the economic development of our wonderful town by attending the meetings and sharing their ideas.

By working together, we can achieve great things!

On behalf of the current Economic Development Committee:

Susan Adams, Selectboard

Eric Bernstein, Planning Board & Business Owner

Donna Marsh, Realtor

Ron Pelletier, Planning Board & Business Owner

Tad Putney, Town Administrator

Valérie Rearick, Town Planner

Steve Russo, Realtor

Gale Taylor, Finance Committee & Business Owner

“Promote balanced, long-term economic development, which reflects and enhances the character of our community”

Meet Brookline Businesses (series)

Hour Mechanic



Hour Mechanic first established in 2014, formerly in Milford, and a NH BBB approved business recently relocated to **185 Route 13** here in Brookline, across the street from Fine Lines. We are a family run and operated company.

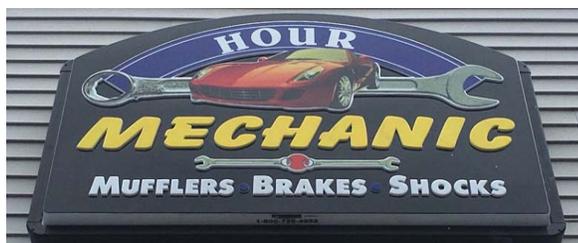
Joe and **Mike** are both hard workers dedicated to making sure the needs of our customers are met quickly, efficiently, and are affordable. They both have over 10 years of experience.



We offer a wide range of services, such as

- ◆ Custom work
- ◆ Rust repair
- ◆ Undercoating
- ◆ Brake work
- ◆ Engine work
- ◆ Transmissions work
- ◆ Towing
- ◆ NH State inspections
- ◆ and much more

Call us at 603-673-0334, or stop by for a free quote! We look forward to providing service to you.



“Let Hour Mechanic Be Your Mechanic”

Living Earth Farm



Living Earth Farm is not your typical farm - no big fields or fancy tractors. We started growing organic vegetables in a tiny garden in 2007. It was so much fun, we doubled the size of our growing space the following year and have kept growing ever since.

Living Earth Farm became “Certified Organic” through the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Foods in 2009. The first of our apple trees were planted in 2011. Peaches and other fruiting trees and plants followed. Today, we grow a variety of vegetables, fruits and herbs on almost an acre of land.

We are constantly working to improve the health and biological power of our soil. All of this helps to minimize disease and pest pressures. We haven’t had the need to use any kind of pesticide, herbicide or fungicide (even organic ones) since we started growing in 2007.

We love growing cold hardy greens and root crops for fall, winter and spring harvest. Unlike summer vegetables that die with the first frost, cool season crops are at their finest after cool or cold weather has settled in. Spinach, lettuce, Swiss chard, kale, carrots, beets, radish, Asian greens, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and cabbage all taste better after temperatures drop. Leaves thicken and become more tender. As the weather warms we turn our attention to warm weather crops like tomatoes and peppers, and to our fruit trees for apples, cherries, grapes, hardy kiwi, peaches, pears, plums and paw paw.

We sell “Certified Organic” potted vegetable seedlings for transplant into your garden. All of our plants are grown in our own special potting mix that provides a rich array of nutrients for optimal plant growth.

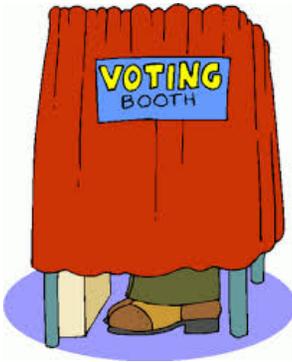
Again, all of our plant material is “Certified Organic” and grown without the use of any, pesticides, herbicides or fungicides.

Ron Christie
54 Rocky Pond Road
Tel. 603-673-2922
Email: livingearthfarmer@gmail.com
www.livingearthfarmer.com



Farmer Ron in spinach high tunnel this January

Planning Department Update & Proposed 2016 Zoning Amendments



The Planning Board, in collaboration with the *Accessory Dwelling Unit Committee*, spent several meetings discussing and revisiting the **Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) Ordinance**. Primarily, the amendments clarify that ADUs shall be within or attached to the building which houses it, shall comply with

fire alarm system interconnection requirements on the property. Property owner must occupy one of the two dwelling units. In case of change of ownership, new owner must comply with the entire ordinance; provide steps that must be taken prior to applying for a special exception.

During the 2012 update of the Brookline Master Plan, residents expressed the desire to see Bed & Breakfast establishments allowed in the Residential-Agricultural District. The Board acknowledged this wish. A new **“Bed & Breakfast” ordinance** has been developed and the proposed

“use” has been added to the “uses permitted by Special Permit” in the R/A district.

Amendments to the Zoning and Land use Ordinance will be submitted to voters during the “All Day Voting” on Tuesday, March 8th, 2016.

Open Positions: Alternate Members

Consider volunteering for a couple of hours a month to serve our town and our residents.

The Board meets **once a month** on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm.

Overview of the Proposed 2016 Town Budget and Warrant Articles

During meetings in October, November and January the Selectboard and Finance Committee worked with department heads to develop the town’s proposed 2016 budget.

At the annual Town Meeting on Wednesday, March 9th, voters will be asked to approve a \$4.33 million operating budget, which is a 2.6% increase over last year.

Town meeting will also consider about a dozen warrant articles for funding some additional items. The warrant

articles include:

- ⇒ \$101,318, which represents the first of three annual lease payments for new high-band radio equipment for both cell towers, fire trucks, and pagers.
- ⇒ \$62,000, which represents the prorated 2016 cost to hire a new full-time police officer effective May 1st.
- ⇒ \$30,000 for engineering work to determine the scope and costs of needed repairs to the Bond Street bridge.

- ⇒ \$18,600, which represents the prorated 2016 cost to expand the existing part-time Assistant Director position at the Library to a full-time position effective April 1st.
- ⇒ \$11,154 for controlling milfoil in Lake Potanipo and Melendy Pond.

All Day Elections Tuesday, March 8th at CSDA - 7am-7:30pm.

Town Meeting Wednesday, March 9th at CSDA - 7pm.

Brookline School District Thursday, March 10th at CSDA - 7pm.

Coop School District Wednesday, March 23rd, at the High School - 7pm

Brookline Chapel



Check the [Video](#)

Concerts, Recitals, Weddings, Art Expos and other events can be held inside this beautiful piece of architecture!

Did you know the Brookline Chapel has hosted over 80 weddings since it was purchased by the Town in 2008?

The Chapel is available for rent all year long and can seat up to 160 guests.

Brusch Hall, located behind the Chapel, is fully equipped with bathrooms, complete kitchen, sofas, chairs and tables.

An ample **parking area** is conveniently available.



Would you like to visit the Brookline Chapel? Do not hesitate to contact anyone at the Town Hall! We will be pleased to open the doors for you!



To Rent the Chapel:

Please contact Rena Duncklee

Phone: 603-673-8855 ext 214

E-mail: rena@brookline.nh.us

Overview of Annual Meetings

The 2016 Brookline's three annual meetings are held in March on separate days and locations:

Town meeting

Wednesday, March 9th at Captain Samuel Douglass Academy (CSDA)

Brookline School District (Grades K-6)

Thursday, March 10th at CSDA

Hollis-Brookline Cooperative School District (Grades 7-12)

Wednesday, March 23rd, at the High School



Timing

Each of the Brookline's three annual meetings is held on a separate day. **A fourth day** (day before Town Meeting) is used for residents to go to the polls and elect town/school officials as well as to vote on any other issues that require "ballot" voting, such as zoning ordinances. **Polls are located at CSDA and are open all day, from 7:00 am to 7:30 pm.**

Meeting Background

Upon arrival at the Town/School meetings, residents check-in to verify that they are registered to vote. At this time, voters receive an index card to be raised when voting. The meeting is run by the Town/School/Coop **Moderator**.

Key Terms - The following are key terms used during the meetings.

Warrant: The meeting's written agenda, which is set and published prior to the meeting. It specifies the items to be discussed and voted on at the meeting. All items on the warrant are open for debate.

Articles: Individual subject matters listed on the warrant that may be addressed at the meeting. The articles are taken up one at a time in the order in which they appear on the warrant, unless it is voted to change that order. Each article identifies a subject matter, but it is the motion under that subject matter that defines the actual question to be considered by the voters.

Motion: To consider the subject raised in an article, a motion under that article must be made. A motion must be germane to the article's subject, but it need not be identical to the article language. Motions often are made that have a dollar amount which differs from the number in the article itself. Once a motion is made and seconded, the motion is open for discussion. The individual making the motion will ordinarily speak first and is expected to provide necessary background on the motion. The language of a motion being considered may be amended by a motion to amend. If such a motion is seconded, and, after discussion, is approved by a simple majority, the main motion before the voters for consideration is so amended.

Discussion: Speaking to a motion is done at the microphone. Speakers introduce themselves by name and street. Discussion must be limited to the particular motion under consideration. Individuals should speak once until others have spoken. Discussion ceases when no one further wishes to be heard, or when a "motion to move the question" is supported by a 2/3 majority.

"Motion to Move the Question": This is a motion to end discussion. It needs to be seconded, is non-debatable, and requires a 2/3 majority. If approved, discussion on the motion ceases; however, the practice has been that voters already in line at the microphone will be heard. It is improper for a speaker to express an opinion and then immediately move to close discussion.

Vote: When discussion is ended, the vote on a pending motion will usually require a simple majority vote to pass (with several exceptions such as a motion for a bond exceeding \$100,000, which by law requires a 2/3 majority and ballot vote). Initially, the Moderator will ask for a "show of hands" vote. Those supporting the motion will raise their index cards signifying their vote. Then those opposing the motion will raise their cards to signify their vote. If the Moderator deems the "show of hands" vote too-close-to-call, a hand count will be used with voters asked to raise their index cards again to signify their vote. The raised cards are then counted by election officials; first of those supporting the motion and then of those opposing it.

"Motion to Pass Over": This motion is a proposal to take no action on a specific article and to simply proceed to the next article. The motion requires a second, is non-debatable, and requires a 2/3 majority.

(Continued on Page 6)

Overview of Annual Meetings

(Continued from page 5)

“Motion for Reconsideration”: This motion asks voters to reconsider a vote previously made at the meeting. This motion is to be made by a voter who had voted on the prevailing side of the prior vote. If such a motion is made and seconded, the discussion is limited to the reasons that the voters should reconsider that earlier vote. A simple majority is required. If passed the prior vote is vacated, and the prior motion is again before the voters.

“Motion to Limit Reconsideration”: To discourage strategic late night motions to reconsider, state statute created a motion to limit reconsideration. This motion can be made at any time during the meeting relative to any previous vote at the meeting. This motion needs a second, is debatable, and requires a simple majority. If such a motion is approved, reconsideration under a successful motion for reconsideration later made at the same meeting is limited in that the reconsideration itself can only take place at a future and publicized reconvening of the meeting not sooner than seven days later.

“Motion to Appeal”: This is motion to appeal a decision of the Moderator in the course of the meeting. It requires a second, is debatable, and needs a simple majority.

“Point of Order”: A voter may rise and assert a “point of order” when the voter believes that a fundamental procedural error has occurred. Asserting a point of order may not be misused as a prefix to give an interrupter uninhibited license to make whatever point he or she wishes to interject.

“Motion to Adjourn”: This motion must be seconded, is not debatable and requires a simple majority. Although “adjourned” might suggest a future continuation, in practice it means to end the meeting. If at 11:00 pm it appears that all matters can be disposed of by midnight, the meeting will continue. If not, a motion to adjourn to an announced time and date will be entertained.

Brookline Planning Board

Positions Available

The Planning Board's mission is to ensure compliance with Planning & Zoning regulations and ordinances when reviewing site plans and subdivision applications and to provide excellent customer service. The Board also revisits the regulations and ordinances to ensure compliance with State and Federal regulations while trying to maintain a balance between the rights of landowners and the voter's vision for the rural character of Brookline.

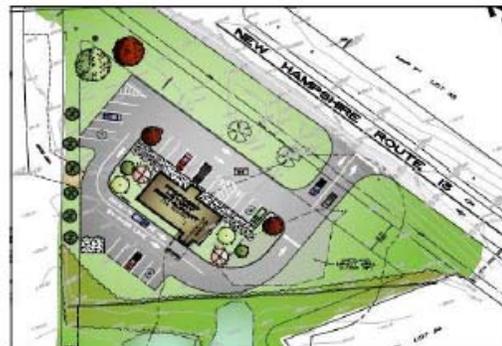


Alternate Member Positions

1-year term
2-year term
3-year term

Members are
appointed by the
Selectboard

Consider volunteering for a couple of
hours a month
to serve our Town and our Residents



The Planning Board meets
once a month
on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm

Attend one of our meetings or contact Valerie Rearick for more information
Valerie@brookline.nh.us (603) 673-8855 ext. 215

Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce

Promote the prosperity of its members

A Quick Overview

The Chamber is a Non-Profit business association, sustained by volunteer effort. The SVCC is governed by a Board of Directors who determine Chamber direction, policies, and activities. Directors are elected from and by the Chamber membership and are all volunteers. Day-to-day operations of the SVCC are the responsibility of a full-time executive director. The members fund the Chamber with a combination of membership dues and other income-producing activities.



What Does the Chamber do?

The Chamber helps to make individuals aware of the activities, services and businesses available in the area, in order to help stimulate the local economy, and enhance, support and promote the prosperity of its members.

- ◆ Raises awareness of the community, its businesses, and activities by maintaining a staff who answer inquires and sends out free information to individuals.
- ◆ Helps to create a positive image for the Souhegan Valley.
- ◆ Works to stimulate the local economy.
- ◆ Provides free information to individuals about the area.
- ◆ Encourages the public to use local services and products.
- ◆ Creates business activities and opportunities.
- ◆ Enhance, supports, and promotes its members' businesses.
- ◆ Promotes a positive business environment.
- ◆ Nurtures new businesses that become members.

The Town of Brookline and many Brookline Businesses are already members of the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce (SVCC) and they could testify of all the benefits they receive by being part of the network.

The Chamber supports and promotes its members, advertizes their events via social media and sponsors "business after hours", ribbon cutting, business open houses, and much more! Networking is also a way to boost businesses' activities! Want to know more? Visit their website www.souhegan.net, contact the Chamber (603) 673-4360, or email Tracy Hutchins, Executive Director tracy@souhegan.net

Welcome to Brookline!

Have you received your "Welcome Packet"?



Welcome to Brookline!

The Economic Development Committee has developed tools to better communicate with businesses and residents.

Welcome Packets have been put together to provide as much information as possible for new residents. The Packets are available at the Town Hall. You will find valuable information about town services, town departments, schools, clubs, organizations, and local shopping. Packets also include information and coupons from local businesses.

Additional information can be found on the town website www.brookline.nh.us.

The website offers an easy navigation for business owners, residents and visitors to access pages dedicated to news and events as well as information on all town boards, committees, departments, organizations and schools.

Features include quick links to Town Resources such as past meetings via a link to **Town Hall Streams** and receiving news via email by subscribing to **E-Alerts**.

Do not hesitate to contact Town Hall Staff with any questions you may have. We are here to assist you in any way we can. The contact list can be found on the website at: www.brookline.nh.us/contacts-directory.

Newsletter



PRSRST STD
ECRWSS
US Postage
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Brookline Economic Development

Town Offices
1 Main Street - P.O. Box 360

Phone: 603-673-8855 ext. 213 or 215

Fax: 603-673-8136

E-mail: tputney@brookline.nh.us
valerie@brookline.nh.us

Postal Patron
Brookline, NH 03033

**[Visit the Brookline
Website
www.brookline.nh.us](http://www.brookline.nh.us)**

Creating a Foundation for Business Success

*In May 2012, the Selectboard chartered Brookline's Economic Development Committee ("EDC") to
"promote balanced, long-term economic development, which reflects and
enhances the character of our community."*

*The EDC meets at least monthly as it works to complete research, develop materials,
and organize events that will support both existing and future businesses in Brookline.*

We invite business owners to learn more about the EDC. Contact **Tad Putney** tputney@brookline.nh.us or
Valerie Rearick valerie@brookline.nh.us for more information.

> Do you want to promote your business? We can help!

The EDC newsletter is mailed to over 1,900 postal patrons, posted on the Brookline website and sent electronically to many individuals, businesses and organizations outside Brookline!

The EDC encourages all Brookline businesses to send information about their activities, upcoming events, their team, etc... along with pictures to be included in future issues of the Newsletter. (We do not print business cards, coupons, etc...).

For more information, please contact Valerie Rearick (603) 673-8855 ext. 215 or email valerie@brookline.nh.us

> Brookline Website (more than agendas and minutes!)

The website offers easy navigation for businesses, residents and visitors to access pages dedicated to news and events, as well as information on all town boards, committees, departments and schools.

Features include quick links to Town Resources such as past meetings via a link to [Town Hall Streams](#) and receiving news via email by subscribing to [E-Alerts](#)

We want to make sure that all Brookline businesses are listed in the [BROOKLINE BUSINESS DIRECTORY](#) and we make every effort to keep it up-to-date.

If your business is not listed in the Directory, if your contact information has changed, or if you have a new website, please contact Valerie Rearick valerie@brookline.nh.us

Businesses and residents can directly contact the [website administrator](#) to submit news announcements or questions. Follow the links under "**Town Resources**" on the home page.