

Wolfeboro Economic Development Committee
Minutes of 12/20/22 Monthly Meeting
Great Hall, Wolfeboro Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lucy Van Cleve called the meeting to order at 8:10.

Present: Chairman Lucy Van Cleve, Vice- Chair Barry Elliott, Members Kathy Fairman, Jen French and Brian Deshaies, BOS (Board of Selectmen) representative. Alternates Mary DeVries and Selectman Linda Murray, BOS alternate.

Staff Present: Planning and Development Director Tavis Austin

Absent: Members: David Maher, Liz Baker McClain, Jeremy Roberge and Carrie Duran.

Minutes: B. Elliott moved to approve the Minutes for 11/15/22. L. Van Cleve seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Review of 2022 Season Recap Report

L. Van Cleve said she would like the EDC to do something soon to demonstrate it is responsive to those who participated in the event.

J. French asked about the number of goals suggested in the roundtables.

L. Van Cleve said there are some we know we can't do anything about, like housing.

T. Austin suggested that the EDC could actually do something about housing such as encourage or facilitate action by others.

L. Murray said there are two parts to the process; identifying the issues/goals raised at the Recap and prioritizing them for action.

K. Fairman presented the start of an Impact/Feasibility Grid which could be used to prioritize goals after they are identified.

M. DeVries suggested there were several issues brought up at the Recap that the EDC could address promptly by providing information from other departments, (ie: what's happening with the Dockside repairs) and by writing letters to other Town Committees and Boards expressing concerns (parking enforcement) and support (dock concierge service.)

T. Austin noted there is often confusion about the differences between Zoning Laws, Town Ordinances and Building Codes.

B. Elliott suggested that to be fair to all who attended the Recap, the EDC needs to address each and every question.

It was suggested all the issues be included in a report to the Board of Selectmen (BOS.)

L. Murray said she thought the report should go to the participants as well as BOS.

B Deshaies noted that it is the role of the EDC to provide guidance to the BOS.

L. Murray agreed, and suggested the report could include EDC recommendations.

M. DeVries suggested the EDC first identify what goes in the report.

J. French took the lead to identify common issues brought up at the six Recap Roundtables with the following results:

Not Enough Housing	6 Tables
Need More Events	6 Tables
Staffing Shortage	5 Tables
Need more Parking/Parking Enforcement	4 Tables
Need Better Communication/Social Media	4 Tables
Need More to Do in Evening	3 Tables
Need Improved Lighting Downtown	3 Tables
Need Business Cooperation Hours/Parking	3 Tables
Grumpy/Impatient Customers	2 Tables
Increasing Cost of Wages	1 Table
Zoning Limitations	1 Table

It was agreed that Chairman Van Cleve would prepare a Report/News Article including the above information and send it by email to those participating in the Recap, the BOS and local media.

2. Summer Event/Laser Light Show

Selectmen B. Deshaies introduced Jared Maraio from the Mount Washington.

All agreed last year's event on August 12 was a great success and that it is desirable to do something like it again in 2023.

Suggestions were made on how the event could be expanded and improved.

K. Fairman made a motion for the EDC to cooperate with the Mount Washington Cruise Company on a summer event on Friday, August 11 at the Wolfeboro Town Docks. B. Elliott seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

3. 2022 and 2023 EDC Budget

Chair Van Cleve reported that not all funds were expended in the EDC Advertising Budget in 2022. She has met with the Town's Finance Director and explained that the EDC was reorganizing in 2022 and does expect to need those funds in 2023.

L. Murray said she does not think the EDC budget will be cut because it did not expend all its funds.

9:45 am J French moved to adjourn the meeting. B. Elliott seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Next EDC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 8 am, Great Hall, Wolfeboro Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Fairman