

**Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
DRAFT-September 18, 2018**

Members or alternates present: Chairman Cindy Patten, Kathy Eaton, Craig Gemmell (left at 8:57), Steve Durgan, Alan Harding, Denise Roy Palmer (left at 8:55), Bill Petersen (left at 9:17), Linda Murray, Dave Bowers, Dave Schappell, Mary DeVries, and Kathy Tetreault

Members or alternates absent: Peter Cooke and Jim O'Donnell

Staff present: Town Manager Becky Merrow, Director of Planning and Development Matt Sullivan and Amelia Capone Muccio-Recording Secretary

Guests: Chairman of the Wolfeboro Planning Board Kathy Barnard and Dan Smiley of the "Laker".

1. **Call to order:** Chair Patten called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM and noted a quorum was present.

2. **Consideration of Minutes: 7/16/18 tabled and 8/21/2018**

It was moved by Bill Petersen and seconded by Steve Durgan to approve the minutes of August 21, 2018 as amended. Members voted, Denise Roy Palmer and Dave Bowers-abstained, all others in favor, the motion passed.

3. EDC Budget

Matt Sullivan reviewed the proposed 2019 Economic Development Committee Budget with the Committee members.

C Patten questioned for clarity what happens to the funds that are not expended?

L Murray replied all funds must be spent or have an open P.O. before the end of the year. If funds are not spent they are returned back to the Town's General Fund.

The Committee discussed the lines with M Sullivan and the following was amended in the 2019 Proposed EDC Budget:

- \$750.00 removed from the consultant's line for the retention and expansion study
- \$500 added to the advertisement line for Last Night Wolfeboro (for a new total of \$6,000)
- \$431 Dues and Subscriptions for two memberships
- \$50 reduction to Travel and meetings
- \$0 funds for Professional Development

L Murray reminded the Committee that any back up information available should be included to support the budget for the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee review.

It was moved by Kathy Eaton and seconded by Dave Bowers to approve the proposed 2019 Economic Development Committee budget as revised at this meeting. Members voted, (L Murray abstained) all others in favor, the motion passed.

4. Old Business

a. Master Plan Update

M. Sullivan provided a draft version of the Economic Development chapter, Goals and Recommendations of the Master Plan for review and discussion.

D Schappell stated he feels that this is a vague document and should be more goal driven.

B Merrow stated that the purpose of the document is to provide an overarching guideline document and used as a work plan for grants writing, etc. and should not be specific for that purpose.

C Patten said that the document is the draft chapter of the Economic Development Chapter of the Master Plan, but what does it mean and what do they do with it.

B Merrow replied that it becomes the work plan for the EDC.

The Committee continued to discuss the pros and cons of the draft and how the document would guide the next 10 years of Wolfeboro. Many of the Committee members felt it needs more specific goals that are measurable to be accomplished in the next 10 years.

C Gemmell suggested a sub-committee of the EDC to review the document and make some recommendations for changes.

C Patten agreed and the following were appointed to the sub-committee of the EDC to review and discuss the draft Economic Development Chapter with Kathy Barnard; Craig Gemmell, Dave Schappell, Bill Petersen, Steve Durgan, Alan Harding and Kathy Eaton.

5. New Business

Back Bay/ Fisherville Planning

Dan Smiley, of the "Laker", and volunteer of the Wolfeboro Area Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Committee with regards to an idea to allow the Town to host winter events on Back Bay. He provided a flyer of a proposed idea to freeze a portion of Back Bay on the top of the water (while still allowing flow at the bottom) to host 90 days winter carnival type events. He stated over the last several years many ideas to promote Wolfeboro in the off-season (winter) have been great, but they all are weather driven. The idea of purchasing a turbidity curtain to freeze 8-12 inches of the ice in Back Bay is an environmentally friendly way to host winter related activities during that time. He explained that Meredith is already doing this to host the pond hockey tournament each year.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the idea and noted it is a great idea and agreed it is worth researching. Members were in agreement to seek any permitting required by the State of NH and any grants available as well.

It was moved by Steve Durgan and seconded by Alan Harding for the Economic Development Committee to recommend the Board of Selectmen support the idea to freeze in Back Bay with a turbidity curtain to host winter related recreation events in Wolfeboro.

6. Other Business

C Patten noted that according to the Friends of Abenaki minutes they are looking into improving a trail at Abenaki called Twister and make it a usable trail with snowmaking. She stated they are currently discussing raising the \$15,000 to do that.

7. Town Manager's Report

B Merrow noted there will a meeting at the Pickering House to discuss FirstNet.

8. Board of Selectmen's Report

L Murray stated the Board of Selectmen reviewed the Public Safety Building proposal that came in with an estimate of \$12 million dollars. The Board has decided to look at alternative options. She reported the Restroom Committee is still meeting and discussing the restrooms in Town.

Being no further business before the Committee, Chairman Patten asked for a motion to adjourn.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone Muccio