

**Economic Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
DRAFT- December 19, 2017**

Members or alternates present: Chairman Kathy Eaton, Mary DeVries, Cindy Patten, BOS liaison alternate Linda Murray, Bill Petersen, Denise Roy-Palmer, Alan Harding, and Mike Roush.

Members or alternates absent: Dr. Craig Gemmell, Jim O'Donnell, Kathy Tetreault, Steve Durgan, and BOS liaison Dave Bowers

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

Guests: N/A

1. **Call to order:** Chairman Eaton called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. Noted a quorum was present. She appointed alternates to sit for absent members.

2. **Consideration of Minutes: 11/21/17**

L Murray amended the minute's page one, page two and page three.

It was moved by Linda Murray and seconded by Cindy Patten to approve the minutes of November 21, 2017 as amended. Members voted all others in favor, the motion passed.

3. **New Business**

- a. **Marketing Committee RE: Last Night Advertising**

M DeVries updated the Committee on the balance of the advertising budget of \$600 left to spend. They advertised in the Sweet 16 and would like to explore advertising in another area and would like to re-discuss the funds on how to use the funds more towards tourism rather than relocation since they have not seen a lot of excitement in that area.

Chairman Eaton agreed like advertising in the NH Business Review. She also noted that she and Denise attended the NH EDC meeting and toured Concord's downtown streets and sidewalks upgrades done with Tiger Grant funds, she noted a lot of discussion was on affordable housing, noting that Wolfeboro is not alone in that topic and overall it was a great meeting.

- b. **Kick-off of the Master Planning Process**

M Sullivan stated the Planning Board will hold a forum on January 23rd to outline the process with the community and set up subcommittees. He stated that anyone can be part of a subcommittee and they have a very ambitious schedule with hopes to have a draft for next September. He stated each subcommittee will be chaired by a Planning Board member and those interested can sign up for a subcommittee at the forum with members appointed by the Planning Board.

C Patten questioned if they will do an electric bill distribution on such information.

M Sullivan replied that they will not have enough time to reach all the billing cycles and such will be advertised on the town website, news media and social media. He explained the forum will be the first step in this process.

c. Tax Incentive available through RSA 72:81

D Owen provided some information to the Committee on some legislation many surrounding areas are looking to adopt to provide tax incentives for new businesses or expansion. He noted Laconia will be doing it for industrial only since they feel they have enough commercial, but he thought it may be something the committee would like to discuss for the future in Wolfeboro. He suggested following some of the communities that adopt it to see how it works out for them.

L Murray noted that it is something they can look into and they should also review the tax impact it will have on the Town. She noted this could be something they discuss in June, when they have a new Town Manager on board.

B Petersen suggested incorporating infrastructure costs as an incentive, noting some areas of town can be potential for expansion or development, but lack the infrastructure needed to do that.

M Sullivan agreed he can provide some information on TIF agreements for further discussions.

4. Old Business

a. Headwaters Demographic Report

b. Draft Economic Development Plan

M Sullivan stated that he provided the Headwaters report because similar information will be critical to the discussion on the Master Plan update and the consultant will be using similar data for housing, employment and social characteristics.

Chairman Eaton stated she reviewed it and felt it did capture Wolfeboro for the most part on housing and housing trends.

c. Mission Statement Update

Chairman Eaton suggested they table this discussion until after the Master Plan update.

d. BR & E Report Card

Chairman Eaton suggested they review the past year and discuss with the Board of Selectmen. The Committee was Alan, Denise, Matt, Linda, Mary and herself.

5. Other Business

Chairman Eaton questioned if the Committee should send a letter of support for the hydrant fee reinstatement.

L Murray noted that the Board had a great conversation with the Budget Committee to explain the need for the Town's fire protection system and the Budget Committee agreed to put some of the funding back in and the Board apologized for the Warrant Article or for offending them in anyway.

6. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Owen reported the Budget Committee met to discuss Warrant Articles and were opposed to the Dock expansion and Bay Street sidewalks.

Chairman Eaton noted the sidewalks are needed on Bay Street as part of keeping that walkable for the community.

It was moved by Peter Cooke and seconded by Mary DeVries that the Economic Development Committee supports the Board of Selectmen's Warrant Articles for the expansion of Dockside and Bay Street sidewalk and to send letters of support for such. Members voted and being all in favor, the motion passed.

*Secretary's note: Peter Cooke was excused from the meeting at 9:31 AM.

M Sullivan noted the first public hearing on the Planning Board articles is this evening. He also noted the RT. 28 Corridor Committee will have a public hearing in January to discuss Pickering Corner.

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

It was moved by C Patten and seconded by M DeVries to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Capone Muccio