

Tamworth Economic Development Commission Minutes

September 9, 2014

Location....Lower level of Cook Library

MISSION STATEMENT: The Tamworth Economic Development Commission will develop a strategy for the retention, growth and attraction of businesses in Tamworth. The Commission should be charged with:

1. Supporting the existing business base of our town and promoting a climate friendly to new business.
2. Identifying the specific types of businesses that match the character of Tamworth.
3. Making realistic recommendations to the town to enable growth of its existing business base; retain and promote existing businesses, and attract new businesses to the town.
4. Coordinating town economic development activities with surrounding towns and utilize regional and state resources.

Call to order at 6:05 PM

Members present: Pat Farley (Chair), Dennis Quinn, Ellie Griffin, Kelly Goodson, David Grasse, Susan Ticehurst

Approved of August minutes

Welcomed new Board members: Susan Ticehurst and David Grasse (already approved by Board of Selectmen)

Reports:

- TamWireless : Numbers holding steady at 100 – 110 (Dennis)
- Senior housing: Willie was not present to report on progress.
- Creating employment opportunities for Tamworth residents: Susan

Susan has been talking to people and has been thinking about the Farmer's Market and the opportunities for networking there for people looking for employment, or those looking to employ. Is there is need for a skills bank? State programs for entrepreneurs? Possibility of including a skills bank on the town's website or a separate website. Conversation with Chuck Henderson: a great deal of money goes out of this area for energy... should we reconsider the renewal of an energy committee? Susan will continue to pursue these ideas and perhaps do something to enable them to happen.

Report on TAMWORTH 250 CELEBRATION

Pat met with John Wacker (Tamworth 250th anniversary. October 24, 2015 (1776) Big doings! It will include celebrations in all four villages. Business, Town Staff, Nonprofits, schools, churches, Barnstormers, Remick Museum. Question to TEDC...How to engage the entire business community in celebration of 250th anniversary. There may need to be contributions from businesses to support it or a unifying factor involving the businesses in town. He would like to gather townspeople to have their photo taken from the air forming the number 250. He would like everyone to think of Tamworth as a sense of place, community, and history. David would like to help with printing, production, etc. and will contact him re. the planned publication.

Question by Dennis Quinn - Might there be a more active chamber of commerce in Tamworth? There is a greater Ossipee chamber of commerce. Also, Dennis thinks we should start a Grange (Josh Gala)

Tasks and plans for November 1st meeting of AgriBusiness..

AgriBusiness: A regional informational forum about 'AgriBusiness' Promoting our local agricultural business ventures so as to increase revenues as their products become available to larger markets. The forum will be held on November 1, 2014 at the Tamworth Townhouse from 10-12 with lunch following.

Rosie's to cater, Lianne to facilitate, Town House is the site
Discussion of marketing, speakers and invitees ensued.

Next meeting....October 14, 2014 at 6 PM

Action Items....

Kelly will talk to Olivia Saunders, Janet, and Ashe from Hobbs (possibly also Lorraine Merrill?)

Meeting will be scheduled with Lianne, Kelly and Pat

David will speak with The Corner House. Ollie

Ellie and David will work on the postcards and flyer design

Work will continue on November 1 meeting and Pat will schedule a few more additional AgriBusiness committee meetings to address details.

Adjourned at 7:05 PM