

**Tamworth Economic Development Commission
Economic Development Tamworth
Meeting on January 10, 2013
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Pat Farley, Jim Hidden, John Howell, Dennis Quinn, Ellie Griffin, Willie Farnum and Kristin Ludwig. Public Present: Cynthia Oxtan, Meredith Savings Bank.

A motion to accept the minutes of the previous board meeting was made by Jim Hidden, seconded by Dennis Quinn, and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Cynthia Oxtan from Meredith Savings Bank joined the meeting to share some of the bank's business products that might help Tamworth small businesses. She talked about the community focus of the bank and the Express Business Loan that has a 72-hour turn around and a simple application process. Pat Farley asked about micro lending. The bank used to sponsor a local micro lending group and she will ask the group for information. Willie Farnum asked about the possibility of Meredith Savings Bank collaborating with other banks to create unique products that will help local business owners. John Howell will talk to Northway Bank.

Tamworth Wireless

Dennis Quinn reported that TW is currently holding steady with customers. He has been working with the state's last mile broadband to bring awareness and understanding of how to bring broadband to smaller communities without using the larger internet providers. The webcam process continues. A letter is being sent to the Tamworth Foundation officially requesting that they serve as repository for funds donated to purchase and install the webcam. The model of the webcam is still under consideration. John Howell will draft an announcement for the Tamworth Exchange asking for donations for the webcam.

Local Business Support

Creating a list of local business email addresses was revisited. Willie Farnum volunteered to call local businesses, asking them for email addresses, websites, and if they would like either or both to be included on the EDT website Business List. Kristin Ludwig will continue to add this information to the website and will look into creating a Mailchimp account for email notices to local businesses.

Action Points

- John Howell will talk to Northway Bank.
- John Howell and Kristin Ludwig will post notice on Exchange about the webcam.
- Willie Farnum and Kristin Ludwig will work on email/website list.

A motion to adjourn was made by John Howell, seconded by Dennis Quinn and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm. Next meeting: Feb. 14, 12:00 pm, at the Lyceum.