

Tamworth Economic Development Commission

MINUTES

February 2013

Feb 14, 2013

Present were Commissioners Pat Farley, Kristin McIntire, Karen McNiff, Jim Hidden and Willie Farnum. Guests present were Joanne Rainville and Jerse Nickerson

The meeting called to order at 12:05.

Motion made and seconded to approve January minutes.

Update from Dennis re. LRPC broadband meeting he attended in order to describe the various steps a town must take in determining the most appropriate form of broadband service. He also shared that Fairpoint is making DSL available in Wonalancet but added that Tamwireless has better usage rates.

It was decided that Karen, Willie and Jim will distribute some of the tourist brochures and business lists. They will also be included in Welcome Wagon packages distributed by Community Nurses.

Pat reported on a recent visit from Cindy Oxtan and Gracie Cilley from the Meredith Village Savings Bank. They described various financial programs for smaller businesses as well as methods to help market businesses, one of which is making an area in their bank lobby in Meredith available to display products from a local business. They also provided copies of the SBA business guide.

Because our area has the fastest growing aging population as compared to all of NH and all of New England, Joanne Rainville and Jerse Nickerson spoke about the need for housing for our more mature citizens. Various ideas were discussed as to possible locations and designs that could develop into more specific plans. Jerse suggested that we look at the *Farm at New England Inn* in Intervale for ideas. Joanne informed us that at least 9 individuals have expressed interest in occupying a property designed for older residents. It was decided that an ad hoc committee should be created to study the challenges and benefits of this issue more thoroughly. Joanne will work on that with her board and with the Commission's support.

Action Points:

All were made aware of a **program presented by the CEDS group of LRPC requesting that town officials and Economic Development groups attend so as to describe possible projects that might qualify for EDA funding. The meeting is Feb. 26 at 8 AM at the Ossipee Public Library.**

Three Commissioners will attend the Funder's Breakfast on March 19 from 9 to 10:30 at Remick Farm Museum and sponsored by the Tamworth Foundation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM. Next meeting **March 14, 2013.**

