

Tamworth Economic Development Commission Minutes

September 12, 2013 at Tamworth Lyceum at 12 Noon

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:

- **Conducting an assessment of the existing business base of the town, including the types of businesses.**
- **Identifying the specific types of businesses that match the character of the town and skill levels of residents.**
- **Making realistic recommendations about what the town can do to grow its existing business base; retain existing businesses and attract new businesses to the town.**
- **Developing a strategy for high-speed Internet access in Tamworth. Accomplished!!**
- **Coordinating town economic development activities with surrounding towns and appropriate regional and state resources.**

Meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM.

Members present: Pat Farley, Willie Farnum, Jim Hidden, Kelly Goodson, Dennis Quinn, Ellie Griffin

Motion to accept July minutes was accepted

Committee Reports:

Old/New Business

- **The Commission's recent charge to research procedures to enable the town to do a build-out Analysis and create Tamworth Geo-Referencing Maps** has been accomplished with the most beneficial help resulting from Pat's meeting with Rep. Mark McConkey and Faye Rubin of Granit Systems at UNH. Results of this research have been reported to the Planning Board and the Selectmen for future action. A temporary procedure called 'Rubber sheeting' in the center of town has been suggested by UNH to enable better planning for possible senior housing, improved sewer system, etc.
- **The Mission Statement** of the Tamworth Economic Development Commission was created from the charges within the Tamworth Master Plan. It was written three years ago, and the Commission has now accomplished most of the goals in that statement. Members need to read the statement (see above) in preparation for discussion of past and future goals of the Commission at the next meeting. In addition, TEDC believes that it would be a positive thing for the Planning Board to be proactive in planning projects, although it appears that the Planning Board is also interested in TEDC bring forth new ideas. More conversation may be necessary to establish a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each.
- **More TEDC Tamworth Visitor Brochures** are available and need to be distributed. Members are asked to continue picking up brochures as needed from Pat and distribute them around town. Dennis will discuss with Kristen how to continually update the **business listings** as that brochure needs to be reprinted shortly.
- **Teen Leadership Tamworth**, a venture proposed by TEDC to interest young people in the governance and workings of the community of Tamworth is beginning to take shape. The goal is to have it ready to launch in May of 2014. Pat, Kelly, and Ellie will meet next week to frame the project and will send their ideas to the members of the committee for feedback, ideas, revisions, additions, etc. TEDC will be looking for adults to lead the venture, and needs to develop criteria for those leaders before recruiting them. We will also need to create a document for publication for adults, and another to recruit

students in grades 9 – 12. The majority of the meeting was spent brainstorming ideas for this venture and creating a framework for the project.

Public Comment ... second opportunity

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM

Next regular monthly meeting ... October 10, 2013

Action Items:

- **Review Mission Statement**
- **All Board members to continually distribute Visitor Brochures**
- **Dennis to work with Kristin to prepare Business Brochure for print in November.**
- **Work on developing the mission, goals, purpose, and practices for the Teen Leadership Forum.**

Strategy for reaching our goals: 1. Develop long term goals; 2. Spin off short term objectives; 3. Convert to a project w/committee; 4. Develop detailed objectives & actions; continually review, track and assess; 5. Make it happen!