

**Tamworth Economic Development Commission
Economic Development Tamworth
Meeting on March 5, 2012
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m.

Present at the meeting: Pat Farley, John Howell, Willie Farnum, Karen McNiff, Keats Myer, and Kristin Ludwig

New Business

Motion to accept minutes of the February 16th, 2012 meeting was made by Keats Myer, seconded by John Howell and passed unanimously.

A request was made by Willie Farnum to add Economic Development Tamworth (EDT) to the top of minutes.

Committee Reports

Tamwireless: No report; Dennis Quinn unable to attend meeting.

Local promotions: Commission discussed combining the two promotional pieces distributed last year into one large brochure. Kristin Ludwig will bring a prototype of a combined brochure to the next meeting. The EDT website was discussed briefly. The ideas of adding downloadable brochures and to include links to maps of tourist locations were mentioned. Kristin Ludwig and John Howell to bring other ideas to the next meeting. The reprinting of the business list was discussed. Commission members were asked to read through the current business list and send any changes they see to Kristin Ludwig. Commissioners agreed to move Tamworth Foundation to "Associations and Organizations" and to add EDT to the front of the business list under "Keep it Local."

Old Business

Rural Funding Sources: Michelle Cleveland sent to commissioners a federal report of new rural funding sources. All commissioners should read report.

The BIG Event: John Howell is working on promotional pieces for different audiences, including existing business owners and people with new business ideas. These promotional pieces could include letters to existing business owners, flyers/posters for people with new business ideas, emails and the Tamworth Exchange. The BIG Event will also be added to the EDT website. A special work session will be held on Friday, March 16th at 12:00 noon at the Lyceum to finalize promotion plans.

Possible facilitators were discussed. No final decision was made.

Action Points

Keats Myer will speak to Robin Lockwood about potentially facilitating the BIG Event.

John Howell will send information for promotional pieces to commissioners.

John Howell and Kristin Ludwig to look at the EDT website for ideas on changes.

Kristin Ludwig to update business list and send to printer.

Kristin Ludwig to combine tourism pieces and bring prototype to next meeting.

Pat Farley and others to speak to people about opening an abattoir.

Motion to adjourn was made by Keats Myer, seconded by Willie Farnum and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Next regular meeting will be April 5, 11:30 a.m. at the Lyceum

Special work session meeting will be held on Friday, March 16, 12:00 noon at the Lyceum.