

Tamworth Economic Development Commission

Minutes from the April 7, 2011 meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

Present at the meeting: Committee members present: Pat Farley, Sheldon Perry, Karen McNiff, Keats Myer. Absent: Bob Abraham, Chris Franchi, Dennis Quinn. Alternates present: Kristin McIntire. From the public: Myles Grinstead.

Initial Business

- Pat announced that our committee has officially become a Commission, as designated by the selectmen.
- Alternate Kristin McIntire sat in for Chris Franchi, who was absent.
- The minutes from the March 10th minutes were read and approved.

Committee Reports

- LRPC Executive Board: Pat and Karen attended a recent meeting of a LRPC committee, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), and will be meeting tomorrow, April 8th, with the Employment Committee subcommittee of CEDS. They will be attending this to further develop the Lightning Pitch concept. Kristin has created a Lightning Pitch application form (in PDF format), which can be emailed out to potential entrepreneurs. The first year will be a pilot program with possible sponsor contributions to defray costs. Keep it simple for now!
- Brochures and www.Tamworthnh.net : Kristin summarized recent developments. There are 750 brochures printed and 94 complete packets (brochures containing the three rack cards). We discussed having a link between the town website and Tamworthnh.net. There is now a calendar section for posting community events. Kristin will talk with Dennis about coordinating this calendar with the arts community calendar. There will be one more appeal on the Tamworth Exchange for corrections and additions to the business list before printing 500, which will then be distributed via various locations in town.

Old/New Business

- Myles Grinstead mentioned that the Tamworth Artisans would be moving to Jersey's yellow house on Route 16. There will be a Grand Opening sometime in July.
- William Taylor from the federal government's Economic Development Administration (EDA) will be visiting New Hampshire sometime near the end of this month. He is coming at the request of Representative Frank Guinta. Stay tuned.
- Honoring local businesses – recognizing notable achievements or awards: The commission considered having a section on the EDC website for recognizing any such achievements.
- Tamworth on Facebook: Jenn Mashiac is creating a Tamworth page. Should this have a link to our website? The commission agreed that it would offer our efforts to a broader audience.
- America Downtown: Keats updated the commission about the conference call with Virginia Mayer, Doyle Hyath and Dolores, an employee of Mr. Hyath. In attendance for the call at Pat's house were Pat, Keats, Karen and Sheldon. Keats summarized this lengthy discussion. The commission considered an offer to have Virginia and Dolores visit Tamworth for a preliminary review of the Chocorua and Tamworth villages and to introduce the Downtown America program to any interested parties. It would only cost us the price of an airline ticket. It was decided to delay any action on this until after a conversation with Virginia occurs on the occasion of her returning for summer vacation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM. The next meeting will be on May 5.