

Tamworth
Economic Development Commission

Minutes for the November 3, 2011 meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present at the meeting: Committee members present: Pat Farley, Willie Farnum, Kristin McIntire, Dennis Quinn, Robin McDowell; Alternates present: John Howell; Public present: None

New Business

John Howell was appointed in place of Karen McNiff.

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by Dennis Quinn, seconded by Willie Farnum and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

TamWireless: Fiber was online and available November 20th and is working well. New TamWireless board members, pending a vote at the annual meeting on November 20th, are Karen McNiff, chair, Declan O'Connell, technical director, Dennis Quinn, director of operations, Pat Farley, Brian Forcier, Sheena Harte, and Demirhan Yenigun . The Town Office will receive a trial from TamWireless before committing to TamWireless as their wireless provider. TamWireless will provide internet access at the Town House on election day, January 10, 2012. Potential tower placements were discussed.

MWEDC Executive Board: Pat Farley facilitated a meeting between the MWEDC Executive Board and Tamworth parties interested in creating an abattoir to discuss funding sources and steps needed to apply for grants for small business ventures. In place of the members of the MWEDC Executive Board repeating this presentation in Tamworth, this discussion will be a part of a potential day-long conference (see Short/long term planning for Tamworth below).

Local Business Support: The reprinting of the business list was discussed. Kristin McIntire to post a message on the Exchange asking for any additions, deletions or corrections to the list. The business lists have been popular with residents and a reprint is scheduled for early in the new year.

Old/New Business

Short/long term planning for Tamworth: After discussions about the America Downtown project it was determined that their services are not appropriate for Tamworth at this time. In place of having an outside consultant group organize brainstorming activities on the future of Tamworth it was decided that the Economic Development Commission would sponsor a day-long conference in April for this purpose. The Future Tamworth conference will include brainstorming sessions for ideas on new businesses, expanding existing businesses and town improvements, among others; small group discussions to further develop the ideas the group decides are pertinent; and sessions on funding sources and the steps needed to implement the ideas. A follow-up conference in the fall was discussed.

2012 Budget: Kristin McIntire is working on a budget of proposed costs for projects in 2012 to be presented to the Selectmen on November 28th. Budget to include reprinting of business list and promotional brochures as well as costs associated with the Future Tamworth event.

December meeting: Willie Farnum motioned that the December meeting be cancelled unless needed. Dennis Quinn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Action points

Kristin McIntire to prepare business list for reprint.

Kristin McIntire to create budget request for 2012 FY.

All to bring ideas for the Future Tamworth conference to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting will be on January 5.