

## Tamworth

### Economic Development Committee

Minutes from the October 7, 2010 meeting

**The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.**

**Present at the meeting:** Committee members present: Pat Farley, Karen McNiff, Sheldon Perry. Those absent: Chris Franchi, Marletta Meduskuie, Bob Abraham, Dennis Quinn. Alternates present: Kristin McIntire.

#### **New Business**

- Alternate Kristin McIntire was appointed to be a board member in lieu of one absent.
- The August 5<sup>th</sup> and September 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes were reviewed and approved by the board.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Broadband report. Dennis Quinn gave Pat a report, in writing, in lieu of his absence. A synopsis of his report follows:
  - The selectman have approved the .88 of an acre figure to calculate the penalties and taxes for the use of the hilltops access points.
  - The backhaul has been ready for almost three weeks, but FairPoint has delayed the project with not having provided the necessary cooperation with NHVT. There are 18 customer radios ready for when they finally provide the "juice".
  - On October 12<sup>th</sup>, a "Community Broadband Meeting" will be held at the Tri-Cap Resource Center, 8 to 9:30 am. Attending will be members from Tamworth Wireless, Cyberpine, NHVT, The Tamworth Foundation and possibly FairPoint, among others. The guest speaker will be Carol Miller, director of broadband development for the state.
  - Tamworth wireless has continued to move forward on preparations for the access points on both Bunker Hill and Page Hill.
  - Tamworth Wireless is looking for a treasurer.
- Scenic Byways. Karen led this discussion:

The scenic byways committee has recommended a new management plan for the 15 communities involved. There is a need to connect the White Mountain Scenic and Cultural Byway (a national byway) to the Lakes Region Byway (a state byway), which would increase the priority for funding to these areas. This connection would be made via Route 16 from the junction of Route 25 in Ossipee to the Albany town line. Karen will do some research as to the current status of this connection.

- Tamworth Brochure. Kristin McIntire led this discussion:

Kristin has continued work on the Tamworth Brochure. She has made further progress on the map section and presented the board with several 11 x 17 assembled brochures. There is still some need to finalize the pictures and to check the text for any improvements or errors.

There was a brief discussion about three specific "rack cards" relating to places to stay (B&B's), where to eat, and where to shop in Tamworth.

There was a discussion about creating a "ready to go" package which would be given to any business inquiring information about Tamworth.

Options available for printing the brochure most economically were considered.

- Land Use Ordinance. Bob Abraham gave Pat a report, in writing, in lieu of his absence:

Bob's report included a copy of the "Tamworth Initiative Zoning Ordinance", as completed by the LURC, which will be submitted to the Planning Board on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

The selectmen are discussing the possibility of tax relief for new potential businesses in town.

### **Old/New Business**

- "Rocket Pitch" at Babson College, on October 28<sup>th</sup>: Pat and Kristin will attend this event to obtain further ideas about connecting entrepreneurs with investors.
- Hydroponic and/or vertical farming: Would this be a viable business in Tamworth? It is a concept currently being considered for farming in urban and rural areas.

- Listing Tamworth's assets: Karen has submitted a preliminary list of assets, by category which will be made available to the Board.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM. The next meeting will be on November 4th.**