

Tamworth Economic Development Commission
MINUTES
March 11, 2019

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:

- Supporting and maintaining the existing business base of our town and promoting a climate friendly to new business.
- Identifying the specific types of businesses that match the character of Tamworth
- Making realistic recommendations to the town to enable growth of its existing business base; retain and promote existing businesses, and attract new businesses to the town.
- Coordinating town economic development activities with surrounding towns and utilize regional and state resources.

4:04 pm....Call to Order

Commissioners present: Kelly Goodson, Barb Bloomberg, Trish Chaput, Chair Pat Farley. John Ferreira seated in place of Mary.

Added to Agenda: In recognition of voting day, Pat asked to add position of Treasurer to the Board.

Barb motioned, Pat seconded. All in favor. Pat recommended the nomination of John F, which would be brought for a vote when he becomes a full commissioner. Other positions open for consideration: Chair, Vice Chair, Recording Secretary; no other nominations.

Approval of Minutes of February meeting: John F, approved, seconded Erica. All approved.

Tamworth Recycling Committee - Pat explained that Kelly and Barb have been researching and working with LRPC and other area org's as co-chairs of this new committee. They presented overview: questionnaire sent out to 14 towns, results coming in. Kelly explained what we have found out about recycling glass to save the town \$\$ She described progress to date on developing program to recycle glass for Processed Glass Aggregate. Discussion of how economic development is a potential side benefit, in line with the committee's mission. Opportunities for economic development include using recycled glass, paper or other recyclables in manufacture of new products, or production of energy. Plans include more recycling and events around Earth Day. The committee will have a table at Town Meeting and present to the Selectmen on Apr. 4.

Financial Update: Pat reported on Expenses and revenues; current balance for 2019: \$2495....(\$400 added back); 2018 was \$3960

Public Comment none

Old and New Business
Topics and committees

Tamworth Age Friendly Forum: Health and Safety, Erica and Mary. Pat explained Mary's personal situation led to decision to postpone forum to a future date, TBD.

Broadband: Pat reported that Becky Mason has been going regional broadband group meetings to raise awareness; shared Jerry Knirk letter to the Daily Sun. Regional/county wide efforts are underway. We have been invited to participate. Discussion ensued regarding benefits and importance of having broadband, Pat and others expressed feeling that it is very important and a major consideration for new residents. John suggested surveying residents to determine the level of need in the periphery of town and associated interest in having better coverage.

Business Brochure: Funds encumbered. Goal to update and reprint by end of year, including updates on web site. Update needed for Carl Behr, Cook and others. Trish will check for emailed info. Website is PDF which can easily be updated. John surprised by lack of email addresses, needed for TVC invitations. Cards at street fair and notices on Tamworth Exchange will be used for updating. John asked about how to get onto exchange. Target printing after Street Fair, to allow time for updates, tabled.

Visitor Brochure: paid with encumbered money; no distribution plans as yet.

Wet Paint preview: Dates are from April 29-May 5. Mary will be less involved due to personal circumstances; committee is well underway. Brochure is done digitally. Plans: Monday, registration, artist meet and greet, dinner (open to public). Tuesday open, with recommendations for paint sites in the Wonalancet area. No Wet Walls on Tuesday or Thursday, due to artists' desire for less pressure at end of the day. Wednesday, South Tamworth paint, reception at Whiteface Hollow. Thursday, paint in Cleveland Hill area, no reception. Village Stroll 5-7 on Friday, with Quick Draw. Saturday Collector's Gala 4:30 – 7 PM, tent at The Preserve, soft music. The Artist's Table 4 course Dinner limited high ticket seating, Sunday wrap up Breakfast at Preserve Barn, trunk show and sale, 8-10.

ACTION Items: Pat arrange for John Ferreira to become full board member.

Adjournment: John moved, Trish seconded. Adjourned at 5:42.