



TOWN OF PITTSFIELD
Economic Development Committee
PO Box 98, 85 Main Street
Pittsfield, NH 03263
February 17, 2016

1. Meeting opened at 6:33.
2. Attendees: Ted Mitchell (TM), Lyn Roberts (LR), Nick Hayes (NH), Donna Ward (DW), Linda Small (LS) and Ellen Barbasso (EB).
3. Minutes for February 3, 2016 were accepted and approved as written.
4. EDC Economic Strategy and Focus (meeting March 23, 2016)
 - A. TM drafted a letter to Board of Selectmen to inform them and invite them to the meeting
 - B. When it is approved, letters will be sent other boards, committees and business owners
 - C. Notice will also be put into the Suncook Sun
 - D. Matt Monahan and Stuart Arnett will put together an agenda. NH suggested that we post the agenda on the web site so people have some idea of what is to be covered.
 - E. Town Profile, Strategy and SWOT will be put into one binder
 - F. Another letter will be sent out after the Economic Focus regarding a sub-committee for the visioning of Pittsfield's future downtown appearance.
5. Business Plan and future acquisition of town owned property
 - A. Plan will take people through the steps of how it is done
 - B. TM suggested that we could have a local store that sells items made by Pittsfield residents
 1. We could involve PMHS students in the process-they could make items in art class, while others could sell them in the local store-they could get community service hours and Extra Learning Opportunity (ELO)
 2. It could also be an information center for the town
6. Grant writing forum (may be held in April)
 - A. Date to be determined
 - B. Start with general basic information that all grants want and the steps to go through – Alice Veenstra may be able to help us with that.
 - C. How do you find grants?
 1. John Freeman has been writing the ones that are school related,
 2. Police Department and Fire Department have also found grants related to their needs
 3. May be able to search for grants through the library
 4. There is a web site that lists organizations and philanthropists who are willing to provide grants to people or communities, however it costs about \$1,500.
 - D. We could have another forum later that gives more specific information about how to search for grants, and grants for rural areas

7. Front Page article for the Suncook Sun
 - A. Topic: The Story Behind the Sign
 - B. Ross cannot guarantee front page space for the article
 - C. Show map and tax incentive zone.
 - D. Put it in after the local elections

8. Survey business owners
 - A. NH went to Survey Monkey
 - B. People can take the survey on-line.
 - C. There is a free one that we can use (they also have one that they charge for)

9. Weekend Business Showcase and Craft Fair
 - A. TM is trying to contact the owner of Little Red Hen to see what dates are for 2016 craft fair season.
 - B. He also wants to talk to Andi Riel about choosing a date for Old Home Day.

10. Other
 - A. One of the new businesses that opened is applying for 79E and 162N. Needs original letters from DRED for designation of ERZ (economic revitalization zone)
 - B. A new restaurant is opening on Main Street

11. Next meeting will be March 2, 2016

12. Meeting closed at 7:26.

Submitted by Ted Mitchell
Ted Mitchell

Minutes taken by: Ellen Barbasso, Secretary