



TOWN OF PITTSFIELD
Economic Development Committee
85 Main Street
Pittsfield, NH 03263
April 12, 2017

1. Meeting opened at 3:04.
2. Attendees: Roland Carter (RC), Louie Houle (LH), Jim Allard (JA), Ellen Barbasso (EB), and Clayton Wood.
3. Minutes of March 15, 2017 were approved and accepted.
4. Open Forum on Community Heart and Soul
 - A. There were some concerns about how Heart and Soul is applied in a town
 - 1 Seems to be a strong connection to legislation and land use (in some areas)
 2. Do they have an agenda-i.e. promote people to live in urban areas
 3. Will conservation land become federal land rather than remain town property?
 - a. Our natural resources should remain in control of the town (like Rt 107 scenic drive)
 - B. We would want to get input from the people of the town as to what decisions we would make
 1. Get as much input as we can so people are aware of potential problems
 2. Being informed is very important
 3. Bring everyone together so we are on the same page-unified and organized
 4. We want to head in the right direction
 5. All should take ownership in the process
 - C. Everything needs to funnel through 1 place (or one person)
 1. Think things through and work together!
 2. Set some kind of standard procedure
 3. Have an open house to have businesses look around
 4. Be pro-active
 5. Identify what we have (for business properties)
 6. Make up a packet for prospective businesses
 7. Have a marketing strategy
 - D. Other
 1. Get legislators into a meeting to talk to them about helping Pittsfield
 - a. John Regan would probably come and meet with us
 - a. Fix roads – we need a 10 year plan before DOT will even look at us
 2. Visit other towns where Heart and Soul has been implemented – Franklin, Laconia, Gardiner, ME, Rockport ME
 3. Do further research and have an all boards meeting.
 4. Think things out before we do something
 5. Decide what we want to do before we hire a planner
 6. What are the roadblocks preventing us from growing? And What can we do better?
 - a. Ask some successful business people to review us, like: Barry Podmore, Mr. Cortese, Mike from Mike's Meats

5. What are some things we can do?
 - A. Have a First Night? -
 1. Need places to go, such as Jitters, Main Street Café, Community Center, one of the churches have a dinner
 2. Do a walk of historical buildings
 3. It could build community spirit,
 4. There may be a problem getting people to come out to it
 - B. Have a recreational directory of hiking trails and biking trails
 - C. Canoe rentals in summer and snowshoeing in the winter

6. Select Board wants to focus on economic development
 - A. Before we bring in an outside agency, we need to figure out our own goals
 - B. We need to get input from businesses
 - C. What do businesses need?
 - D. What do people of the town want?

7. Other:
 - A. Create a new Facebook page
 1. Get a new administrator
 2. Have more positive feel to it. Voice concerns in a better way
 - B. Get business owners to come to a meeting to plan an agenda
 - C. Invite high school students to attend a meeting-find out what would make them stay in the town?

8. Next meeting will be April 26, 2017, at 3:00pm

9. Meeting closed at 4:10 P.M.

Submitted by _____
Roland Carter, Chairman

Minutes taken by: Ellen Barbasso, Secretary