

Rangeley Region Economic Opportunity Committee

Minutes of meeting held February 12, 2018

Members Present: Kate Williamson, Linda Dexter, Darryl Sterling, Laura Reynolds, David Burgess, Nancy Hilliard and Dawn Field

Call to order: Kate called the meeting to order at 7:47 am.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from Jan. 22 meeting. Dawn Field, Nancy Hilliard 2nd. Approved with correction. (Laura Reynolds not at Jan. 22 meeting)

Economic Development Coordinator Update:

SBA Presentation was successful. Follow-up sessions to be planned. "How to start your own business".

Downtown revitalization kickoff meeting will be held within a week or so. Following kickoff a public visioning meeting will be held. Need other people for downtown committee. Other business people. Laura Reynolds will be the representative from RREOC replacing Linda Dexter as original member.

General Updates:

New committee on trails was formed with the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust and Rangeley Region Health and Wellness center coordinating. RREOC will be represented by Linda Dexter. Committee will fulfill ideas for trails expansion and coordination brought up in RREOC early meetings.

Meeting Topic:

Budget discussion. Selectmen have been asked twice to put salary for Economic Developer position in budget. Decision to make presentation to Board of Selectmen explaining benefit of position. Money for Darryl's position is in budget.

Letter to Board of Selectmen will be dropped off today for tonight's meeting asking the board to table any decision on Economic Developer position until RREOC can make a presentation to Board regarding the benefits of the position. Next budget meeting February 26.

RREOC will also make a request for a reserve account of \$20,000 to cover action items that will arise from RREOC and Revitalization plans.

Presentation highlights: Communications – Broadband/Cell Coverage: Kate, Laura; Downtown Revitalization: David, Laura; Marketing/Branding and Housing: need coordinators.

Reviewed Economic Development Action Plan from September 2016.

Rangeley Region Health & Wellness is presenting a Community Visioning Session on Wednesday, March 7 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at RLRS.

Wright-Pierce will be at our next meeting to discuss the downtown plan and our thoughts, and priority issues. We agreed on a 2 hour meeting to give adequate time for a meaningful discussion.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by David, Dawn 2nd. Adjourned at 9:00 am.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 7, 2018 from 8:00 -10:00 am

Minutes taken by Linda Dexter, Secretary