

Rangeley Region Economic Opportunity Committee

Minutes of meeting held April 30, 2018

Members Present: Kate Williamson, Linda Dexter, Nancy Hilliard, Shelley Lowell and Dawn Field, David Burgess and Darryl Sterling. Guest David Miller, Exec. Dir. RL Heritage Trust

Call to order: Kate called the meeting to order at 7:45 am. Introductions

Minutes: Dawn motioned to accept minutes, Nancy 2nd. Motion carried.

Economic Development Coordinator Update:

EDC report available. Key points: webinars for info on economic multipliers of airports. Ongoing grants: Northern Border Region, Communication Infrastructure, airport grant being delivered to FAA today. Infrastructure projects: boat ramp moving forward, Bald Mt. Rd, culvert repairs. May 10 Quarterly Selectmen's meeting with presentation of Franklin County Broadband Study. Meeting with Charlie Woodworth. Interesting ideas on funding ie: 1-2% tax on Real Estate transactions designated for economic development. Ad Valorem taxes – DS to look into. Maine State Housing Authority: TIFs for affordable housing. Building permit fees are low in Rangeley, could increase fee and put into economic development.

General Updates:

Human Resources consultant going through applications for new town manager, will bring top 4 or 5 to Selectboard.

CMP upgrading power grid from Canada to Mass., increasing tower height. Trying to get into fiber for internet. Internet and Cell upgrades ongoing. Dave Burgess starting a Wireless internet business in Rangeley.

Housing Inventory – will be part of the downtown revitalization plan with help from EDC.

Need to promote downtown meeting on May 30.

Broadband presentation in Rangeley Plt. on Thurs. 5/10 @ 6:00. Presenters: Kate, Laura, Charlie Woodworth and Brian Lippold from the Sewall company.

Meeting Topic: tabled “Solutions to Threats”

Adjourn: Nancy Motioned to Adjourn, Dawn 2nd. Adjourned at 8:55 am.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 14, 2018 at 7:45 am. **Topic:** Plan the May 30 public meeting on Downtown Revitalization

Minutes taken by Linda Dexter, Secretary