

Kennebunk Economic Development Committee

Minutes

Thursday, March 2, 2023, 4:30 P.M.

Room 307

Attending Members: Steve Sawyer (Chair), Maureen Flaherty (Vice Chair), Gary Dugas, Chris Babcock , and Ashley O'Brian.

Members Absent: Randy Gates, June Huston and Ashley Padget.

Also in attendance: Laura Dolce (KK&A C of C), Heather Balsler (Town Manager), Karen Winton (Deputy Director of Community Development), Dave Moravik (KDC), Charlie Galloway (KDC), Bob Georgitis (KDC), Brian Laverriere (Public Services Director), and Wayne Berry.

- 1) Open Meeting by Steve S. at 4:32 PM.
 - 2) Welcome new Town Manager – Heather Balsler
 - 3) Minutes from February 2, 2023 - Motion by Chris B., second by Maureen F. - Approved as written.
 - 4) Public comments: Wayne Berry – can't find any support for a local lodging tax. There may be support for a local 1% sales tax (a Bill in progress).
 - 5) Old Business:
 - a. Workforce Transportation – Steve S. – despite repeated calls, no response from the State.
 - b. Cable franchise agreement & ordinance update – Heather B. - This should be on the agenda for the next Ordinance Committee meeting.
 - c. Lower Village Project update – Steve S. – waiting for feedback from Maine DOT.
 - d. Creation of a new Business Development Handbook – Ashley O. – presented a sample “welcome packet” as a good starting point. Discussed possible content.
 - e. Personal computer usage for EDC Business – Discussed Freedom of Information rules, ways to communicate within these rules with the system we currently have, and the possibility of having town issued personal computers for all members of the EDC.
 - 6) New business:
 - a. Steve S. – Introduced members of the Kennebunk Development Corporation, then started an open discussion on the responsibilities of and cooperation between the EDC, KDC, Chamber of Commerce, Selectboard and Town Staff. Better coordination is needed between all groups.
 - b. Discussed the TIF process.
 - c. Discussed revision/update of the Strategic plan – next step Need RFP.
 - 7) Adjourn at 6:14 PM
- respectfully submitted: Gary Dugas