

Kennebunk Economic Development Committee

Minutes

Thursday – March 3, 2022, 5:00 P.M.

Via Zoom

Attending Members: June Huston (Chair), Maureen Flaherty (Vice Chair), Gary Dugas, Steve Sawyer, and Randy Gates.

Also in attendance: Laura Dolce (KK&A C of C), Chris Osterrieder, P.E. (Director of Community Development), and Kortney Nadeau (Selectboard Liaison).

Members Absent: None

- 1) Open Meeting by June H. at 5:00 PM.
- 2) Minutes from February 3, 2022 – Motion by Steve S., second by Maureen F. – approved as presented – all in favor.
- 3) Laura D. – Chamber update:
  - a. Job Fair will be on March 28<sup>th</sup> at St Martha's from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, with a special time for Seniors (1:00 to 2:00).
  - b. There will be a Business After Hours on 3/23 at the Habitat for Humanity Restore.
  - c. May 6<sup>th</sup> – dedication of a charging station to Sharon Staz.
- 4) Connectivity update – Steve S:
  - a. Have signed contract with Tilson – should have a preliminary system design in about 6 weeks.
  - b. Meeting with a tower company regarding a possible new tower at Public Works Facility. Town Police and Fire may want space on this new tower. May need a contract zone or zoning change to allow for height.
  - c. Otelco is installing fiber on poles now, an alternative to Spectrum.
  - d. Consolidated is also thinking of running lines.
- 5) Branding Update – Maureen F.:
  - a. Town has signed a contract with Pan Atlantic to break down the results of the Survey – align with the Towns Strategic and Comp-plan.
  - b. Get a better understanding of what is important to residents and what Kennebunk has to offer.
  - c. Next step will be for Tina to devise a plan to get the results to the public.
- 6) Discussion on the Crane Report.
  - a. June pointed out that some of the discussions in that report are still useful (it was created in 09) – Parking in Downtown, Workforce training, Business Retention and Business Visitation.
  - b. Questioned how to get people to use Downtown businesses.
  - c. Steve S – most businesses are suffering from a labor shortage – can the High School help?
  - d. June H. will try to meet with Tim Fossett and Greg Paterson to get ideas.
  - e. Randy G. will work on a list of targets for business visitation.
- 7) Adjourn at 6:32 PM

respectfully submitted: Gary Dugas