

Meeting Agenda

Date: May 18, 2020

Subject: Avery County Economic Development Advisory Committee

IMPORTANT PRE-MEETING INFORMATION - We need to observe the maximum 10 people gathering COVID-19 rule, but potentially there could be 12 of us who usually attend [9 EDC members & 3 county officials]. Therefore **PLEASE** if you are unable to attend let me know ASAP, so we can plan accordingly. We will be live streaming this meeting if you can't attend, but would be available to watch & listen – at this time I am unsure if we will be able to have streaming attendees interactive. All that said, let's all be prepared to be in compliance with COVID-19 social distancing and all other similar COVID -19 guidelines.

The meeting will come to order.

Welcome Jerry Moody.

1. Guest speaker presentation - Mr. Dan Lohr, Client Engagement Director at LocalIntel [re. project and presentation request as discussed at our February meeting]. **As this is an electronic presentation timed to begin at 5:00**, we will need to postpone approving or amending the February 24th. meeting minutes until after the presentation.
2. Approve and or amend the February 24th. Meeting Minutes.
3. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Retaining Employees Workshop - need to reschedule at a future date.
 - b. Pool Opening video status?
 - c. Kate Gavenus re. Main Street America in Newland status/progress update.
 - d. Other?
4. Phillip Barrier updates [include Golden Leaf Grants?].
5. Dave & Phillip: Newland strip mall property development status?
6. **Education sub-Committee Report [Susan, Dave & Ken]:**
 - a. Nothing at this time, as a result of COVID-10 cancellations.
7. **Outdoor Recreation sub-Committee Report [Eric Berg]:**
 - a. Report?
 - b. Other?
8. **Marketing sub-Committee Report [Melynda]:**
 - a. Report?
9. **Agricultural sub-Committee Report:**
 - a. Comments from Jerry?
10. **New Business and/or other issues to address:**
 - a. What can we - as the EDC, do to help/assist our local businesses recover from the resulting COVID-19 financial crises?
11. **Potential future discussion topics:**
 - a. Ditto #10a?
12. What have I/we missed – questions, concerns, other?
13. **Next meeting** – Monday, June 29th.

Is there any objection to closing the meeting? Hearing no objection, the meeting is adjourned.

NOTES: (1) Opening & closing instructions in *bold italics* are now in compliance with “Robert’s Rules of Order”, 11th Edition.

PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES:

1. April 29, 2019 combined EDC/BoC meeting review. For the record our suggestion list was:
 - a) The development of an Arts, Craft & Agricultural Products Market. Such a facility appropriately marketed would serve all of Avery County.
 - b) Pitch to gated community members our Avery County business opportunities and county needs, in the hope of enlisting their interest and/or support.

NOTE: Susan has made an excellent suggestion - “Next time, instead of calling it a joint meeting, what if we call it a ‘presentation’ to the BOC. We could break the hour in half & in the first half hour, we could share info on what we have accomplished. Then, give the second half hour for feedback or talk time.”
2. Previously Phil Trew, NC Works and Rebecca Bloomquist, High Country Council of Governments have offered their assistance with grant writing - as has Kate Gavenus [many moons ago]. Is investigating grants something we should be recommending to the Board of Commissioners?
3. At the October 28, 2019 meeting a motion was made & passed extending the EDC Meeting times from 6:00 to 6:30 PM, on those dates when the committee has a guest speaker.