

Meeting Agenda

Date: August 26, 2019

Subject: Avery County Economic Development Advisory Committee

1. **Susan has an appointment that makes getting to our meeting on time unlikely. Need a “Secretary” volunteer, please someone?**
2. Approve and or amend the July 29th. meeting minutes.
3. Phillip Barrier updates, status reports and any dialogue with David Pollard re. his attendance/interest in our EDC.
4. Dave, Phillip & Ken: IRC, Run Amok Mead and Newland strip mall property development status.
5. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. March, 2020 Retaining Employees [Workshop, Summit, other title?]
 1. I discussed with Debbie McLean, Branch Manager at the Avery County Morrison Public Library and she OK'd our use of the downstairs for our venue. I will need to meet with her at least one (1) month in advance to plan a date. The facility can accommodate 40 people easily - 60 max. and they have sufficient chairs & tables to seat 40.
 2. Jesse Pope to touch base with Jim Swinkola of Grandfather Home for Children and Sam Stephenson of Lees-McRae College?
 3. Kate Gavenus to touch base with Pat Mitchell of the North Carolina Department of Commerce as a potential presenter/speaker?
 4. Phillip Barrier to touch base with Bill Slagle, Regional EDC Representative also as a potential presenter/speaker?
 5. Susan Siirila to arrange for catering and as a presenter/speaker?
 6. Additional assignment of project tasks?
 - b. Next video site location discussion & selection.
 - c. Further discussion of Main Street America organization?
 - d. Previous combined EDC/BoC meeting review. For the record our suggestion list was:
 1. The development of an Arts, Craft & Agricultural Products Market. Such a facility appropriately marketed would serve all of Avery County.
 2. 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.”
 - e. 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?
 - f. Other?
6. **New Business:**
 - a. Do we need to extend our meeting time to 6:30 when we have a guest speaker? As an alternate Susan has suggested having a separate meeting date for guest speakers?
 - b. Potential new EDC members: Kate Gavenus suggested Jessica Wiseman, of Linville Falls Winery. Ken suggested someone from the high school.

- c. Avery County Fair - September 4 – September 7, our participation?
- d. Other?

7. Marketing sub-Committee Report [Melynda]:

- a. Other collaboration ideas with Mr. Frank Mr. Frank Ruggiero, Director of Marketing for the Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation?
- b. Other?

8. Agricultural sub-Committee Report [David Pollard]:

- a. Status of wineries visits - re. having our logo on the Linville Falls wine bottle labels?
- b. Other?

9. Education sub-Committee Report [Susan, Dave & Ken]:

- a. Tentatively 3rd. class to begin on Tuesday's in October - either on 10/08 or 10/15, each double class running 12:17 until 1:47.
- b. Junior Achievement volunteers?
- c. Other?

10. Outdoor Recreation sub-Committee Report:

- a. Appoint a new committee?

11. Other new business and/or issues to address?

12. Potential future discussion topics:

- (a) None as of this date.

13. What have I/we missed – questions, concerns, other?

14. Next meeting – Monday, September 30th.