



Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

July 24, 2013

Present: Marc Violette, Violette Property Rentals
Laura French, New Hampshire Telephone Museum (Secretary)
Lynne Haney, Schaefer Mortgage
Scott Hanwell, DadoPrint
Elizabeth D’Orazio, Sugar River Bank
Graham Gifford, New Hampshire Telephone Museum

Guests: Courtney ***, Central NH Regional Planning Commission
Matt Monaghan, Central NH Regional Planning Commission
Mike Tardiff, Central NH Regional Planning Commission
Rick Davies, Warner Planning Board
Barbara Annis, Warner Planning Board
Jim Bingham, Warner Town Administrator
Aiden Sherman, Warner Planning Board

Missing: Rhonda Rood, Country Houses (President)
Cindy Dumais, ReMax
Susan Olsen, Resident Power & Freedom Energy Logistics (Treasurer)
Sean Bohman, YCN & 3 Bidy’s Pet Treats

Laura opened the meeting shortly after 5:00pm. The meeting began with a short presentation followed by a lengthy discussion with the members of the Central NH Regional Planning Commission. This group has been conducting informal discussions with various members of the Central NH region to get a sense of their expectations of economic development in the region. Issues discussed included why we live here, why we do business here, broadband services, cell service, job market, exodus of younger people from the state, making school more affordable, high schools working with manufacturing companies, quality of life, etc.

After the guests left the board discussed the possibility of sponsoring a town-wide discussion in conjunction with the Central NH Regional Planning Commission. It was agreed that we would discuss it with Jim Bingham to see if the town wanted to co-sponsor it.

Secretary’s Report – *Laura French*

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from our June meeting. ***Motion passed unanimously.***

Treasurer's Report – *Susan Olsen*

In Susan's absence, Laura reviewed the balances in the accounts per the report that Susan emailed earlier in the day. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Review of Action Items

Rhonda will talk with Schoolhouse Café to see if they would be interested in joining and hosting a chamber event. **No one has heard from Rhonda regarding the Schoolhouse Café, so Lynne offered to take on this action item.**

Susan is going to provide the group with three new insurance quotes, as well as, provide the group with a proposal for combining all accounts. **No update.**

Laura will contact Mike to determine whether he wants the KACC table and chairs returned to him, if we can sell the set, or if we should find a storage location. **Laura emailed Mike but has not heard back from him.**

Committee Updates

Networking – *Elizabeth D'Orazio*

Elizabeth distributed and reviewed the latest list of Chamber events. On August 28 the Chamber will hold a Friends & Family BBQ at the Jim Mitchell Park; September 3 is the next Business After Hours at the Upton Chandler House Museum, and the Coffee Talk will be the Social Media "Trio" (date to be determined). Emails will be sent to the membership and the confirmed events will be posted in the next edition of the Kearsarge Happenings.

Marketing – *Scott Hanwell & Rhonda Rood & Marc Violette*

More discussion ensued regarding the brochure with some expressing their disappointment that it has still not gone to print. The layout is complete but we keep having to make room for new members. The group agreed that the line has to be drawn somewhere, so Scott will include the few members who joined recently and then send it to print. We will debut the brochure at the BBQ in August. Anyone not making it into this issue will be included in the 2014 edition. To prevent waste, a small number will be printed initially. After the 2014 membership invoices go out we will set a payment deadline of January 31; anyone not paid by that date will not be included in the 2014 printing of the brochure. Hopefully this will be an incentive for people to pay their dues early. **Firm 2014 print deadline is February 28.**

Blood Drive – *Sean Bohman*

Due to miscommunication from the Red Cross, a blood drive was scheduled for July 24 – the same day as this meeting – so Sean was working there and unable to attend our meeting. In addition, the next blood drive is scheduled for August 14. **Action Items: Sean will line up a sponsor for the next drive as well as contact the Red Cross to make sure we get posters this time. Scott will get this date into the next Kearsarge Happenings.**

Newspaper – *Scott/Laura/Rhonda*

Scott reported that the newspaper is coming along and commended Maryann for doing such a great job in the past. Scott has discovered that the layout is difficult and that we need a new system for dealing with the advertising. He is not sure who has paid for what and finds himself

chasing down ads. It was agreed that he should not be doing any of the advertising work since that is what Rhonda is supposed to be doing. He has enough on his plate with the layout portion of this project. The paper is slated to go to print the first week of August – right on schedule!

Other Business

A lengthy discussion revolved around the responsibilities of the board and its members. There is a general consensus that enthusiasm is waning, due in part to the continued absences of some of the board members which results in extra work for the rest of the team. After a review of the bylaws it was suggested that we enforce the 3-absence limit. People who choose to serve on the board need to make the work of the board one of their priorities in order to enable our projects to move forward. Much of the work is being done by a handful of people which is leading to potential burnout and an implosion of the board. The group agreed that our communication between meetings continues to improve which has been a big help in keeping things moving.

Susan sent her notice of resignation to Laura and Rhonda, so we now need to fill both the treasurer's and the vice president's position. Laura announced that this will probably be her last year as secretary and Rhonda's term of president is up this year as well.

Marc suggested having someone from Sugar River Bank fill the Treasurer's position. Liz said she would ask. If they do not have anyone available, we have other banks who are members who may be able to provide someone to fill the role. The president is responsible for appointing a nominating committee to start filling these and the expiring board positions.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45pm.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, August 21 at 5:00 p.m. in the lower level meeting room at the NH Telephone Museum.

Submitted by:

Laura French
Secretary