



**TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
February 14, 2019
5:00**

Minutes - *DRAFT*

Present: Libby Borden, Bill Brown, Sue Frisch, Larry Hannafin, Tom McGowan, Kathy Williams

Visitors: Matt Riiska, Phylis Bernard

Libby Borden called the meeting to order at 5:05.

The minutes of the January 10, 2019 meeting were approved

EDC member preferences for WIN and Fiber Optics

WIN: Sue Frisch, Jon Riedeman, Tom McGowan, Larry Hannafin

FO: Libby Borden, Bill Brown, Pete Anderson, Jim Nelson, Kathy Williams

Libby handed out the application for The Evan Hughes Charitable Trust Award and suggested WIN apply. Sue and Bill will do the application.

Libby reiterated the invitation from Rails to Trails to attend its meeting a 6:00 that evening to discuss new directions for R2T.

Pete Anderson had suggested a year-round WIN. In his absence the commission had a lively discussion about that concept. It could bring NGO's together for a particular weekend, or weekends highlight particular themes. The publicity and advertising would be cheaper and more efficient. As a first step, Kathy volunteered to put together a list of all the events scheduled for 2019 so far

Sue said that at this time there were 46 events scheduled for the Winter WIN

Bill updated the committee on Fiber Optics. He said ideally we would have fiber optics up and running within a year. However, a town vote is needed to do this, and it is extremely important to encourage the town to vote favorably. Bill handed out a to-do list towards this end. He said he wanted to put together four focus groups with eight participants in each to start the process. The focus groups will cost \$3,250; \$1,000 has been promised. He proposed \$2,250 come from the EDC budget. Libby proposed that the same amount should be approved for WIN.

A motion was proposed and approved that \$2,250 be allocated to each Fiber Optics and WIN.

Bill reported on the web site which is getting good traffic. Libby is putting together a town-wide list of e-mail addresses. The plan is to ask people to opt in to receive information from the web site on a regular basis. At this point there will be two options – to receive “alerts” from the town which might include anything from town meetings to tornadoes and/or to receive a weekly calendar of events. Libby plans to send out a letter to the e-mail recipients as chair of the EDC and asked the commission for their approval to do this, which was granted.

Matt said that budget proposals were due by the end of the month. Libby said that the EDC has not received the paperwork.

Matt also encouraged everyone to attend the NWCT Economic Development Summit at Infinity Hall on Tuesday night at 6:00. Registration is necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

Libby Borden