



**TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

March 14, 2019

5:00

Minutes - *DRAFT*

Present: Pete Anderson, Libby Borden, Bill Brown, Sue Frisch, Jim Nelson, Jon Riedeman, Kathy Williams

Visitors: Phylis Bernard, John DeShazo, Paul Madore, Wiley Wood,

Libby Borden called the meeting to order at 5:00.

The 2019-2020 budget was added to the agenda.

The minutes of the February 14, 2019 meeting were approved.

Budget: The EDC budget for 2019-2020 is \$8,400. Matt has requested that EDC expenditures are categorized according to the budget.

The HUB: The town and its commissions has been offered an umbrella membership by the HUB for \$575. This would entitle commissions privileges at the HUB including the ability to hold events there. Matt had suggested the EDC pay for it. During the discussion, Kathy said that commissions using the HUB might contribute. Libby said she would talk to Matt about this idea for next year's budget. The motion to pay for the HUB membership for the town was approved.

WIN: Sue gave a summary of the WIN budget and handed out a "planning guide - task list" for WIN. EDC will send out a solicitation letter for WIN again this year. Kathy handed a preliminary list of 2019 Norfolk events which she will continue to work on. She said that she would focus on themes for weekends. Sue said that there should be a unified marketing campaign for Norfolk and its institutions and there will be a follow-up meeting on April 8 at the HUB.

Website: Bill updated the committee on the website. Pete suggested that the website address be appended to the Welcome Norfolk entrance signs. The website committee is working on an e-mail address database to elicit interest in the website with the idea that individuals can sign up for weekly announcements from the website about events. The website should use social media. Peter Coffeen has agreed to be the website photo editor. Leslie Battis will take over the posting of town hall information.

Fiber Optics: The Energy Committee is looking into an electric utility company for Norfolk to facilitate Norfolk's ability to use the polls to string fiber optics wire. The EDC should work on community relations to get people on board about fiber optics. The FO committee will put together some talking points. A focus group is tentatively scheduled for early April. There will be a Go-Fund-Me page to get some momentum going. The goal is to have a Town meeting about fiber optics in September. It was emphasized that all plans for a fiber optic network are still very preliminary and subject to change

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00.

Elizabeth Borden, Co-chair with Bill Brown