

Minutes
SKOWHEGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
REGULAR MEETING
February 6, 2019
7:00 AM
Renaissance Center – Conference Room

Members Present:

Jason Gayne, Chairman
Todd Smith, Treasurer
Betty Austin
Kristina Cannon
Matt Dubois
Sally Dwyer
Reid Gibson
Kurt Maynard

Members Absent:

Doreen Poulin, Vice-Chairman
Billy Finley

Others Present:

Dena Rich, Recording Secretary
Jeff Hewett, Director of Economic & Community Dev.

1. Call regular meeting to order.

Jason Gayne called meeting to order at 7:00 a.m., quorum was met.

2. Approve the Skowhegan Economic Development Corporation minutes the “regular” meetings January 16, 2019.

Motion by Matt Dubois seconded by Sally Dwyer to approve the minutes from the “regular” meeting January 16, 2019 as written. Vote 8-0, motion carried.

3. Approve the Skowhegan Economic Development Corporation financials from January.

Motion by Kurt Maynard, seconded by Matt Dubois to approve the financials from January. Vote 8-0, motion carried.

4. Old Business

There was no old business to attend to at this meeting.

5. New Business

a. Executive Session in accordance with M.R.S.A. Title 1 s405 (6)(C) to discuss property negotiations.

Motion made by Betty Austin, seconded by Reid Gibson to go into Executive Session at 7:04 a.m. to discuss in accordance with M.R.S. A Title 1 s405 (6)(C), to discuss property negotiations and for Dena Rich as the Recording Secretary to stay in the room. Vote 8-0, motion carried.

Motion made by Betty Austin, seconded by Todd Smith to come out of Executive Session at 7:25 a.m. Vote 7-0-1, motion carried Reid Gibson abstained.

The Board decided to table all deals until regular Board Meeting in March. Also, the Board asked Jeff to speak with Amber Lambke about her vision for the property and to let her know the decision of the Board at this time to wait till March.

6. Member Topics

Broadband- Jeff Hewett let the Board know the two surveys are still out. Jason Gayne asked if Jeff could reach out to Steve Conley; he had asked about Broadband at the Planning Board meeting last night.

Natural Gas- No updates at this time.

Acquisition/Development- The Board agreed that there needs to be development of in Town lots and on the second floor of buildings in the downtown.

Marketing- Kristina Cannon let the Board know that Bill Green from Bill Green's Maine will be in Town for the Snowfest on Saturday at the Skijoring event at Eaton Mountain.

Run of River- Kristina Cannon let the Board know that it was recommended by the fundraising group that they put together a group of ambassadors from around the State who believe in Run of River and can help move the project forward. To help open doors to places they don't have access to such as the bigger foundations and corporations. On the 17th of January they pulled together about 15 ambassadors and other stock holders at Bigelow Brewing Company. They did a presentation on the project and where things stand and the partnership with the Outdoor Sports institute. They have applied for a few grants and a few more they are working on, there is going to discussions with some other groups in the new future as well.

7. Items by the Members

Jason Gayne let the Board know that the Hospice Building is sold; the closing is on Friday morning. A doctor will be moving in there next week. Hospice will be utilizing the second floor for now; they are looking for a place that is just one level.

8. Economic & Community Development Office Items

Jeff Hewett let the Board know we are working on the Energy Project for some of the Municipal Building in Town.

Jeff Hewett let the Board know that in a couple of days we will be turning on the mapping program one side for the public and an internal side for Town employees.

Jeff Hewett let the Board know that we are working with AARP for the Age Friendly Community Project. You are going to see some spin outs from that. There are a few grants we are going after. We are working with the Town of Madison and Skowhegan together on the grants. We are working on the digital literacy side to help the elder.

Motion to adjourn by Todd Smith, seconded by Reid Gibson.