

Upper Valley Economic Council

Meeting Minutes: April 22, 2019

Next Meeting: Monday May 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:05 pm.

Present: Alvin Theriault, Peter Qualey, Brian McQuarrie, John Owens, John Qualey, Steve Gould, Lois Eash and Jeff Packard.

Guests: None

Minutes: It was moved, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of February 14, 2019.

Treasurer's Report/Sign Warrants: Office Manager Packard presented the Treasurer's report for April 22, 2019. The Board voted to approve the report as read. The Board signed the warrants.

Town Meeting Update: Stacyville and Sherman approved the article for Funding for UVEC.

Election of Officers: Brian McQuarrie made a motion to keep the Officers the same. Lois Eash seconded the motion. Alvin Theriault made a motion to nominate the same individuals who currently hold the offices for UVEC. Lois Eash seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Broadband/Fiber Optics: No Update

Betterment Grant: Jill Ducharme wrote a grant requesting \$30,000 over three years for operating funds.

Gloria MacKenzie Grant Update: Stacyville's application for \$45,660.00 to construct an addition to their Municipal Building made it to the second round. Sherman's application for \$250,000.00 to construct a Salt Sand Shed was turned down.

Office Manager's Report:

UVEC Business Guides have been printed and are being placed in Businesses around the area.

KRDB Update: Mike Elliot was hired as the Director and he will be moving from Bangor to the Millinocket area. A meeting will be held Wednesday May 1st in Patten at 4:30-5:30, with the first 30 minutes for the board to meet Mike Elliott privately and the last 30 minutes as an opportunity for others to join as we introduce Mike Elliott, to folks from the northern end of the region. A second meeting will be hosted at the Katahdin Higher Education Center, on Wednesday May 8th from 4:30-5:30, for us to have the opportunity introduce Mike to community members from the southern end of the region.

Provided a meeting place for the Katahdin Valley Wheeler's ATV Club and have been assisting them with their USDA grant.

The Katahdin Higher Learning Center is are hosting a job fair on Wednesday April 24th from 1-4pm.

For the past year, The Katahdin Collaborative has worked with community members from eight towns in the region, a nine-person steering committee, and Adam Burk + Co. to gather input from residents, businesses, organizations and collaborators to create a vision and action plan called the Katahdin Gazetteer: A road map to the future. It is built from community voices, hopes, great ideas and concerns. It is now ready for action. As a key community member and business owner, please join us for a celebration and presentation of the Gazetteer. You're invited. Final presentation is Wednesday April 24th at the Town Hall in East Millinocket. A light meal will be served at 5:30 and the highly interactive presentation kicks off at 6:00pm.

Business up-date:

Scenic Byway: Larry Johannesman of the Maine DOT emailed the plan for the parking area and a rough draft of the signage ideas. These were passed around to the UVEC Board. Larry said they will be starting work as soon as the snow is gone.

UVEC RBEG Update: There is \$44,713.10 available for lending. There is an individual who will be coming in to apply for a loan.

Sherman Boralax Plant: Stacyville also passed the article to process /manufacture medical marijuana and sell marijuana. The Judge ruled in favor for the Town of Stacyville for payment of Personal property taxes owed to them by Niagara World Wide.

Peter Qualey: Announced to the Board that they need to be looking for a replacement for the Chairman position. Peter would like to step down sometime in the very near future. Peter stated there is not an immediate emergency but the Board should be looking so he can step down possible this year.

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

John Qualey, Treasurer
