

Meeting Agenda

Date: March 29, 2022

Subject: Avery County Economic Development Advisory Committee

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Unless I advise otherwise prior to our meeting we will be meeting in person in the Avery County Administrative Building.

If you can't attend the meeting, but would like to join by phone please let me ASAP.

The meeting will come to order.

1. Approve and or amend the February 22nd. Meeting Minutes.
2. Guest Speaker [short 10-15 minute presentation]: Juan Robles owner of New Generation Services. His company specializes in lawn care, painting and pressure washing.
3. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Anne Winkleman to an update the Avery County Chamber of Commerce "Business & Tourist Guide".
 - b. Ken Walter to provide update reports on the "Finding, Keeping, and Motivating Workers Workshop" and New Business Guide Tool Box Survey.
 - c. Kate Gavenus to report on New Business Guide Tool Box project.
 - d. Phillip Barrier to report on the status of the Dogwood Trust Survey.
 - e. Phillip Barrier to report on the Occupancy Tax status?
 - f. Phillip Barrier to report on the American Recovery Plan funds applicable to Avery County & the EDC?
 - g. Avery County High School & Cannon Hospital videos - these will be in our proposed 2022-2023 budget at \$1,000.00 each,
 - h. Other?
4. Phillip Barrier updates and other news re. strip mall property, Structall, etc. Other new business news?
Dave Smith re. Newland strip mall property development status.
5. **New Business and/or other issues to address:**
 - a. Phillip Barrier & Ken Walter to report on the EDC's budget for fiscal year 2022-2023.
 - b. Other?
6. **Avery County Chamber of Commerce** - Anne Winkleman.
 - a. Newland festival this June.
 - b. Other
7. **Agricultural sub-Committee Report [Jerry Moody]:**
 - a. News and/or updated information on the kill & chill project news.
 - b. Ken Walter re. IPM interviews he attended.
 - c. Other
8. **Marketing sub-Committee Report [Ken Walter]:**
 - a. Ken Walter has provided the High Country Housing Needs Assessment to Dave Smith, Terri Melton and Jesse Pope, but because of its size – 402 pages, have not loaded to our web site.

9. Education sub-Committee Report [Ken Walter]:

- a. Phillip & Ken to report on the Avery County School System “Business Advisory Council” meeting they attended on March 3rd.
- b. Other

10. Future discussion and/or action topics:

- a. Further discussion on Ken Walter’s previous suggestion that when the Avery County Occupancy Tax dollars start to flow and the Board of Commissioners hires an administrator would it then be time to consider an Avery County Facebook page?

11. What have I/we missed – questions, concerns, other?

12. Next meeting – Tuesday, April 26th.

Are there any objections to closing the meeting? Hearing no objections, the meeting is adjourned.

NOTES: (1) Opening & closing instructions in **bold** are now in compliance with “Robert’s Rules of Order”, 11th Edition.

PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES:

- 1. April 29, 2019 combined EDC/BoC meeting review. For the record our suggestion list was:
 - a) The development of an Arts, Craft & Agricultural Products Market. Such a facility appropriately marketed would serve all of Avery County.
 - b) Pitch to gated community members our Avery County business opportunities and county needs, in the hope of enlisting their interest and/or support.

NOTE: Susan has made an excellent suggestion - “Next time, instead of calling it a joint meeting, what if we call it a ‘presentation’ to the BOC. We could break the hour in half & in the first half hour, we could share info on what we have accomplished. Then, give the second half hour for feedback or talk time.”
- 2. Previously Phil Trew, NC Works and Rebecca Bloomquist, High Country Council of Governments has offered their assistance with grant writing - as has Kate Gavenus [many moons ago].
Is investigating grants something we should be recommending to the Board of Commissioners?
- 3. At the October 28, 2019 meeting a motion was made & passed extending the EDC Meeting times from 6:00 to 6:30 PM, on those dates when the committee has a guest speaker.

Reminders:

- 1. Allen Cook, Mayland Community College Small Business Center continues to offer assistance programs & services to help business owners understand & apply for grants & loans.