

Meeting Agenda

Date: October 26, 2021

Subject: Avery County Economic Development Advisory Committee

Given the current Covid-19 circumstances we will have next week's meeting as a virtual Zoom meeting and like last month we will all be joining virtually. Susan will be using her digital recorder as an aid in taking minutes and I will request Dennis Holland provide her a recording of the meeting as well.

The meeting will come to order.

1. Approve and or amend the September 28th. Meeting Minutes.
2. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Ken re. the Community Center video. Brent Ramsey hopes to have the initial editing - for our review, done by the end of the month/early November. [Reminder - the price quoted to do the Community Center video is applicable to doing both the Hospital & High school videos.]
 - b. Avery County Chamber of Commerce "Business & Tourist Guide" update [defer to Anne Winkleman?]
 - c. Occupancy Tax status?
 - d. Ken re. latest Newland Structall and Bent Pine Hollow news.
 - e. Other?
3. Phillip Barrier updates and other news re. strip mall property, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Structall, etc. Availability of Avery County Logo decals? Other new business news?
Dave Smith re. Newland strip mall property development status.
4. **New Business and/or other issues to address:**
 - a. I will be on holiday during the November meeting. Do we want to make a decision now whether or not to hold a December meeting - would be on 12/28 or wait until the November meeting?
 - b. I have extended an invitation to Victoria & Jon Bowman – Structall, to be guest speakers at our January or February meeting [on the assumption we will not hold a December meeting], which has been accepted.
 - c. Clayton Harpold to report on Mission Statement progress.
 - d. Kate Gavenus to report on New Business Guide Tool Box project.
 - e. American Recovery Plan news applicable to Avery County & EDC?
 - f. Other?
5. **Avery County Chamber of Commerce** - Anne Winkleman.
6. **Agricultural sub-Committee Report [Jerry Moody]:**
 - a. News and/or updated information on the kill & chill project news.
 - b. Other
7. **Marketing sub-Committee Report [Ken]:**
 - a. No report.
8. **Education sub-Committee Report [Ken Walter]:**
 - a. "Finding, Keeping, and Motivating Workers Workshop" to be presented by Professor Tonya Snider - re. offer from Allen Cook. Per Phillip Barrier's recommendation during our September meeting it was agreed to postpone this workshop until early next Spring due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. - - - Continued on next page - - -

Reminder: our only obligation to host will be to provide a venue – Avery County Community Center and lunch and we will also offer as Zoom webinar for those who cannot attend in person.
Note: Allen Cook OK'd re. 09-29 e-mail.

b. Other

9. Future discussion and/or action topics:

a. ?

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

11. Next meeting – Tuesday, November 30th – **Clayton Harpold to preside.**

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.