

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and TOURISM COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Bill Ackerman  
Bernie Krasnoff  
Rob Megnin  
Bill Mercier  
Gerrie Russell

**ALSO PRESENT:** Seth Webb, Town Manager  
Amy Morrison, Events Coordinator

**AGENDA:**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/
3. Citizen Input
4. Chamber Report
5. Resort Report
6. Town Report
7. 2015/2016 Budget Review
8. Commissioner's Concerns
9. Date for Next Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM.  
A motion was made to approve the minutes of 9/22/14 as amended.

**CHAMBER UPDATE:** (Bill Mercier)

The annual meeting was held on October 8, 2014. At that meeting the existing officers were elected for another term. New board members elected were Hannah Abrams, AdvCoach, Kyle Kershner, Killington Pico Realty, Nancy Koch, Killington Deli and Marketplace. Steve Prentiss, Killington Motel. A joint presentation was presented by KCC and the Resort on future plans including the formation of KPAA. Killington Resort presented an overview of the new 4-season recreation developments. The KCC officially announced its position in favor of the KPAA and the Options Tax Reform Plan. There were 120 signatures in favor of this position. Preparations have begun for the Holiday Festival to be held December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The chamber is on target for new memberships.

**RESORT UPDATE:** (Rob Megnin)

As of last Thursday the trend of pre-sold products is very strong. Lodging reservations and ski pass sales are significantly up over last year with winter bookings up 40% at this point. The forecast is for above average precipitation and below average temperatures. We are moving up in the NPS ratings because of our focus on guest services.

**TOWN REPORT:** (Seth Webb)

The shoulders on the newly paved sections of roadways will be completed by the contractor who has the specialized equipment needed for this. We expect to hear from the US Forest Service on the approval of bike trails within their jurisdiction. After approval contractors will be hired to clear the trails. The wayfinding signs will be put in place soon. There will be six this year with more to come next year.

The proposed 2015-2016 Economic Development Investments support the third goal of the Select Board's Strategic Plan which is to increase tourism, year round employment, and support the growth of our tourism based economy. Each category was described and the strategy, expected results and implementation plan was also discussed. It was noted that 27 restaurants and delis were open in the summer of 2014, a huge improvement over 2011. The plans include the same events with similar costs. However, it should be noted that we are in constant discussions regarding new event options. Some ideas in that category would be Vermont Jerk Festival, Mountain Bike Competitions, Creek to Peak Mountain Run and Cyclocross where riders compete on grass, asphalt and dirt.

The 2015 priorities are to develop a transition plan and partnership for either outcome on the Option Tax Reform vote, support the formation and growth of the KPAA and to build a trail from the visitor center to Kent Pond. Non-tourism business development is another important consideration that will bring jobs and build the year round population.

The next meeting is Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Gerrie Russell