

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and TOURISM COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015**

PRESENT: Bernie Krasnoff
Rob Megnin
Bill Mercier
Gerrie Russell

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

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

AGENDA:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of meeting Minutes from 12/11
3. Citizen Input
4. Chamber Report
5. Resort Report
6. Town Report
7. Killington Pico Area Association
8. Commissioner's Concern
9. Date for Next Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM.
A motion was made to approve the minutes of 12/11.

CHAMBER REPORT: (Amy Morrison)

The KPAA has adopted new bylaws which include the name change. Mike Solimano and Tracy Taylor have been appointed to the Executive Board of the new KPAA. There will be a transition time for logos etc. to be put into place. The membership has hit projections bringing in over \$100,000. There is positive support from companies in the area such as General Electric and Green Mountain Power. "KILLINGTON WELCOME CENTER" will be installed on the East facing side of the roof as soon as weather permits. Visitors traveling West will see it.

RESORT REPORT: (Rob Megnin)

The weeks encompassing Christmas and New Years were excellent for business because of this year's calendar. Schools were closed a full two weeks. There were three rain events causing freezing but but because of the low temperatures it was possible to make snow. The new guns produce a greater amount of snow while using less energy. The ropes course has been delivered. Gravity Logic is scheduled to come back for more consultations. The Soaring Eagle ride is on it's way. On Friday, June 19th, there will be a community day celebrating the coming summer season, with Saturday, June 20th being the official opening day. "Jerk Festival", a celebration of Caribbean Food and "Dirty Girls" a spartan like race for women have been added to the regular events including the Wine Fest, Beer Fest, October Fest and an extended Cooler in the Mountains. The traditional Spartan Race is also returning.

TOWN REPORT: (Seth Webb)

There are six wayfinding signs in place and Amy Morrison should be thanked as she was quite involved in this project's completion. Finally all of our branding will be of the same design and color. The Kayak Trail will be ready for this summer. The town budget includes \$20,000 to be used as a match for grants to start the newly approved mountain bike trails. The total cost will be around \$230,000 but small increments can be completed with grants. The Vermont Mountain Biking Association is starting a local chapter here in Killington with participation from the Resort, KMS, KPAA and the Recreation Commission. A public meeting to discuss the proposed extension of the sidewalk from the Basin to the Resort will be held on Wednesday, January 14th at 7:30 PM. There is a Firehouse Commission meeting tonight. They are coming to a consensus as to how to move forward with the stated needs of the fire department both now and into the future and will present their findings to the community. Campaign for Vermont will be at a special Selectboard meeting on January 27th. Property taxes have been a barrier to economic growth. Many are hopeful that this legislative session will make progress on tax reform. There are no major changes in the budget for events or marketing.

COMMISSIONER'S CONCERNS:

The vote on the Options Tax has been delayed but not forgotten. It is important for the Town Budget to pass. The success of the Streetscape Program can be seen in completed projects such as Park and Ride, Landscaping, trail to Kent Pond, side walk to West Hill, Wayfinding signs and trails.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 9th at 3:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

First Draft
Respectfully Submitted
Gerrie Russell