

## Meeting Agenda

**Date:** November 25, 2019

**Subject:** Avery County Economic Development Advisory Committee

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1. Approve and or amend the October 28<sup>th</sup>. meeting minutes.
2. Guest Speaker Margaret Earley-Thiele, Foundation Director at Mayland Community College, she will explain/update us on their Pinebridge Facility Project.
3. Phillip Barrier updates, including meeting with Representative Tim Moore on Thursday, 11/21.
4. Dave & Phillip: Newland strip mall property development status?
5. **Unfinished Business:**
  - a. March, 2020 Retaining Employees Workshop:
    1. Debbie McLean, Branch Manager at the Avery County Morrison Public Library has now put us down for both dates [per our telecom 11/07] – 3/19 primary and 3/26 as our fall back date if we have to cancel 3/19 because of weather, hours 11:30 until 1:00 with an approx. ½ hour overrun. Reminder – the downstairs facility can accommodate 40 people easily - 60 max. and they have sufficient chairs & tables to seat 40.
    2. Melynda to touch base with Marilyn Boland as a potential presenter/speaker?
    3. Where do we stand with Josh Smith and Dave Phillips and other presenters?
    4. There was a misunderstanding at our October; there will be no charge to those attending our Retaining Employees Workshop.
    5. Additional assignment of project tasks?

Completed:  
Kate Gavenus has arranged with Pat Mitchell of the North Carolina Department of Commerce to be our guest speaker.  
Jesse Pope will be a work shop facilitator, or provide an alternate.  
David Pollard has confirmed he would be a work shop facilitator.
  - b. Status of: Pool Opening video, Cooperative Extension & Avery County Fair video, Cannon Hospital & Avery County High School ground breaking photos.
  - c. Kate Gavenus re. Main Street America in Newland status/progress?
  - d. Other?
6. **New Business:**
  - a. Potential new EDC members: Kate Gavenus suggested Jessica Wiseman, of Linville Falls Winery and volunteered to contact her accordingly. Status?
  - b. Susan also has a suggestion and Ken recommended we recruit someone from the high school.
  - c. Other?
7. **Education sub-Committee Report [Susan & Dave]:**
  - a. 3rd. Junior Achievement class completed. Comments from Susan, Dave or Ken?
  - b. Phillip & Ken to report on participation in Avery County Career Technical Education feedback program at the Avery County High School on Tuesday, 11/19.
8. **Outdoor Recreation sub-Committee Report [Eric Berg]:**
  - a.
9. **Marketing sub-Committee Report [Melynda]:**
  - a. Avery County Chamber of Commerce Visitors & Relocation Guide update?
  - b. Other?

**10. Agricultural sub-Committee Report [David Pollard]:**

- a. Status of wineries visits - re. having our logo on the Linville Falls wine bottle labels?
- b. Other?

**11. Other new business and/or issues to address?**

**12. Potential future discussion topics:**

- (a) None as of this date.

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

**14. Next meeting – Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.** [Ken will be undergoing eye surgery on this date, Clayton will need to officiate].

**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 have 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.