



ATTENDEE	POSITION/TITLE
Chris Johnson	Vice Chair (Somerville)
Dick McLean	Treasurer (Damariscotta)
Michael Tomko	Secretary (Boothbay Harbor)
Mal Carey	Executive Committee Board Member (Newcastle)
Nancy Prisk	Executive Committee Board Member (Southport)
Kris Poland	Executive Committee Board Member (Bristol)
Bob Faunce	STAFF – County Planner
Mary Ellen Barnes	STAFF - Director of Economic & Community Development
Zach Mosher	STAFF – Community Development Specialist

Chris called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

**MINUTES AND BUDGETS**

Chris asked about approving minutes from the September EC meeting and a motion was made by Dick to accept the minutes, seconded by Kris.

Bob mentioned that his budget had been slightly revised, indicating that DACF had approved a further \$9,850. Bob added that a 25% match is required for that money on the county’s behalf and that the money would be reflected for 2017.

Mary Ellen said that she would be attempting to spend down some money in the RPC budget, including travel reimbursement. Dick asked for clarification concerning why no money had been spent from the travel line item, given how much driving staff does. Mary Ellen said that the staff had generally been compensated for out of county travel but would increase the reimbursement for local trips in 2017. She and Zach will be filing end-of-year reimbursement forms very shortly.

There was group discussion concerning office needs and equipment as well as payments concerning training and bills. There was also more discussion concerning the nature of the county budget.

Dick made a motion to accept both the Planning and the ED budgets which was seconded by Mike.

**2017 CALENDAR**

There was review over the RPC meeting calendar for 2017 and Mary Ellen said she would be happy to receive feedback. Chris suggested getting rid of Mondays and rotating Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for board meetings. Mary Ellen agreed and will send out a revised calendar.



**PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

Bob mentioned his frustration with DOT, revealing he had reached a boiling point. He is not allowed to do any of his proposed projects, his technical assistance funding is at \$7,500 (a large part of which is purely admin. costs), and as a result is ending his contract with DOT. Chris agreed that the state is not interested in many projects that the towns care about – it isn’t doing this work nor is it allowing the towns to do it.

Bob continued that DOT has paved nearly all state and state aid roads and that is good, but then gave two examples of good projects that they said “No” to. They approved handicap accessibility assessment in Lincoln County. Bob reiterated his stance that he would no longer be continuing on with DOT work as soon as the RPC could find someone else.

Bob then gave an update on the High Crash Location (HCL) work he has been doing with DOT, indicating that a report had been submitted outlining where all of Lincoln County’s high crash locations are, according to DOT definitions. There was discussion over each individual location in the county and what DOT has plans to do at each location to possibly alleviate crashes.

Bob then gave a presentation concerning the updated Flood and SLR maps the RPC completed in conjunction with Bowdoin and Pete Slovinsky.

**ED ACTIVITIES**

Mary Ellen updated the board on RPC activities saying that she and Zach had recently attended a Brownfields workshop in Portland. She added that the RPC has plans to apply for more hazardous Brownfields funds, looking again to make the case of the economic impact a Brownfields site possesses.

She then gave an update on the specific properties the RPC is currently working on, including Mason Station. Areas of concern on the site include the Ash Ponds, soils near the former location of Oil Tank #3, and lots with asbestos debris (“North Point lots”). The town is working on their own cleanup grant for the site in conjunction with the RPC.

Mary Ellen indicated that RPC work with CDBG applications is currently ongoing, specifying work with NC Hunt in Jefferson and Gamage Shipyard in South Bristol. CDBG money requires a 50% match for this Economic Development Assistance program, and the business receiving assistance needs to hire low to moderate income employees.

Zach provided an update concerning his work with David Swetland of the Newcastle-Damariscotta Rotary. Zach has been collecting and mapping school “free and reduced” lunch data by school district in the county for the purposes of helping the Rotary visualize the poorer communities.

Mary Ellen said she was hoping to meet with ConnectME and Tidewater soon about the possibility of doing a Jan. workshop on broadband.



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Meeting Date: November 22, 2016  
Location: LCRPC Office

Mary Ellen continued that the plan is for the RPC to establish 4 or more business-related workshops. A Small Business start-up workshop with Jaime Logan, David Hill, and Bill Card is tentatively planned for January. Also, she wants to organize workshops around farming or fisheries.

**NEW TOPIC?**

Bob brought up the fact that Alna and Westport are engaged with former Time Warner VP of Government Relations, now working for Sewall. Bob wondered if there were other towns interested in working with this person in hopes of negotiating a better deal for each town's Cable Access franchises.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.