

Town of Ashland, NH
Economic Development Committee EDC
Minutes
Wednesday December 4, 2024
Utility Conference Room 6 Collins Street

I. CALL TO ORDER: Charlie Bozello called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Bonnie Bethune, Jennie Angell, Peter Ott, and Sean Collins were present. Jana Flores-Jon was absent with notice. Benoit Lamontagne has not joined the committee yet.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NONE

III. PROCEEDINGS

The Economic Development Committee has been directed to review and recommend changes that might be appropriate to the Edward N. Doggett Campground and the town beach. These recommendations can include deed review, repairs, improvements, fee structures, and ongoing operations of the facilities.

Charlie Bozello distributed a cost analysis for the campground from 2016 through 2022. It appears that through 2021 the campground was making enough revenue to offset operating expenses in other Parks and Recreation programs.

Peter Ott distributed an analysis of 12 campgrounds in the area to compare their amenities and rate structures.

Jennie Angell distributed a letter issued from Mitchell & Bates Professional Association on September 7, 2000. They had analyzed the Campground/Beach deed for possible reverter rights. It appears that the Town of Ashland has complied with all terms of the deed so there should be no reverter rights.

The Committee discussed funding options for the campground that included creating an Enterprise Fund and/or a Capital Reserve Fund, charging campers for winter storage, and increasing fees.

The Committee discussed inviting Ann-Marie Barney to an Economic Development Committee meeting to review repairs and improvements to both the campground and beach that she would recommend.

The Committee discussed requesting permission to develop a Town Beach Improvement Plan in a warrant article at the 2025 Town Meeting with the expectation of requesting any required funds for improvements at the 2026 Town Meeting.

Charlie Bozello said the Board of Selectmen would like the Economic Development Committee's recommendation for improvements and campground fees for 2025 at the next Select Board meeting on 12/16/2024 so the town can start executing contracts with campers.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

None

Town of Ashland, NH
Economic Development Committee EDC
Minutes
Wednesday December 4, 2024
Utility Conference Room 6 Collins Street

V. NEW BUSINESS

None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM