

## FRANCONIA PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, August 8, 2017

### **Members Present:**

Thad Presby, Mary Grote, Victoria Cole, Keith Batchelder, John DiMarzio

**Others Present:** Barbara Ashley, Cort Rousell

**A public hearing of the Franconia Planning Board was held on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at the Franconia Town Hall. Thad Presby called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.**

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The July 11, 2017 minutes were read and the following motion was made:

**Keith made a motion to accept the July 11, 2017 minutes as amended, Victoria seconded the motion with all voting in favor.**

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7:15 pm - Chamber of Commerce - Barbara Ashley - NCC - Kaela Gray and Plan NH has helped us with growing Franconia by changing the zoning. This will be brought to the Town in March for a vote. We need shops and restaurants. We need something that will help our town grow. We have a dying town on our hands.

The Chamber of Commerce has a new Board coming on in November. They could go after a couple of grants to help us with this. We need a new Welcome Center and Barbara believes that this will be the gateway to the rest. We need to identify where we can locate a permanent welcome center with parking.

We need more events and restaurants to draw people to our town. The Chamber of Commerce has been more functional than previously. Barbara thinks we should have more shared meetings with specific agenda items that could be sponsored. One Planning Board Member did not think that our branding was all that good here in Franconia. He thought that it should be more clear and viable.

Maybe we should form a subcommittee to spend more time on this and determine the uniqueness of Franconia. We are a tourism town for summer mountain biking, hiking and backpacking...winter skiing, snowshoeing, etc.

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**Miscellaneous -**

A letter for Trail Side Road for town acceptance of a private road - was given to the Board for review. Thad Presby will call Janet Levenson after the meeting to explain what she needs to do to get the road accepted by the town.

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Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 29, 2017. Meeting was adjourned at 830pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbie Bartlett  
Planning Board Secretary