Pending Approval

BOARD
MINUTES

June 25, 2025

PINETOPS TOWN HALL

101 E Hamlet Street; Pinetops, NC 27864

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:01pm by Chair, Suzanne Coker Craig.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll was taken by Secretary, Stacey L. Staton.

The following members were in attendance:

Ms. Suzanne Coker Craig, Chair
Ms. Hattie Harris, Vice-Chair
Ms. Stacey L. Staton, Secretary
Ms. Jennifer Brown, Board Member
Mr. Eric Johnson, Board Member

The following members were not in attendance:

Ms. JoAnn Smith, Board Member

Others present at the meeting were:

Mayor Brenda Harrell, Town of Pinetops
Mr. Bruce Naegelen, Presenter (NC Department of Commerce)
Ms. Odyssey Brown, Town of Pinetops Clerk
Mr. Kirby Fuller, Promotion and Design Committee Member

III. WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER

Mr. Eric Johnson was welcomed as a new member of the Advisory Board after being approved at the June 3, 2025 Pinetops Board of Commissioners Meeting.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Coker Craig asked for a motion to approve the May 28, 2025 Minutes.

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Harris.
Seconded by Ms. Brown.
All voted in favor.

V. NEWS FROM PINETOPS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Harrell reported the Commissioners would soon be meeting to discuss the upcoming budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

She stated demolitions had begun on abandoned and/or ran-down structures.

She commented on the success of the Senior Leadership Team that is currently taking the place of having a town administrator. The Senior Leadership Team includes Police Chief, Stacey Harrell; Public Works Director, Cody Lancaster and Chief Finance Officer, Tammy Keesler.

She announced there would no longer be a separate waste pickup for recycling starting July 1, 2025.

She discussed having a community bulletin board as an additional outlet to keep citizens informed.

VI. PRESENTATION ON ACTIVATING PUBLIC SPACES

Mr. Bruce Naegelen gave a presentation on utilizing vacant spaces. He showed before and after photos of vacant lots being transformed in to social hubs, open markets, and outdoor entertainment venues. He explained with some good strategic planning the unused spaces can become great gathering places.

VII. WORK COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Smith was absent so no report was given from Organization Committee.

Ms. Staton presented information regarding ordinances. It was determined more development was needed. Mr. Naegelen offered to have a phone meeting to help guide the process. Ms. Odyssey Brown offered to see if there are existing ordinances based on the subject or category being established.

Ms. Brown announced the Movie Night was canceled for the following day but the Promotion Committee plans to incorporate it into the back to school event they are currently planning.

Mr. Johnson agreed to take the lead of the Economic Vitality Committee. Mr. Ron Pate resigned from the Advisory Board.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

There was a discussion regarding foregoing the July board meeting. Chair Coker Craig called for a motion to not meet in July this year and going forward.

A motion was made by Ms. Staton.
Seconded by Ms. Brown.
All voted in favor.

IX. NEXT MEETING

Chair Coker Craig announced that the next meeting will be August 27, 2025.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Coker Craig asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnson.
Seconded by Ms. Brown.
All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Minutes Approved on ____

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Signature of Chair, Suzanne Coker Craig Signature of Secretary, Stacey L. Staton