

**NORTH COUNTRY COUNCIL  
CEDS Committee Meeting  
Mt. Eustis Commons / Littleton, NH  
November 17, 2023  
**DRAFT MINUTES****

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ POSTINGS**

Glenn Coppelman called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. No challenges were made to the validity of the meeting.

**2. ATTENDANCE**

Members Present:

Amy Bassett, Ben Amsden, Chuck Henderson, Harrison Kanzler, Michelle Beaudin

Staff Present:

Glenn Coppelman

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

September 15, 2023 Minutes: **TABLED**

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

N/A

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

Glenn Coppelman informed the group that due to staff illnesses, the presentations scheduled for today will be recorded and distributed to the Committee at a later date. The remainder of the meeting was used for participant share-out on topics of importance and interest to the group:

**Harrison Kanzler (AHEAD)** reported that AHEAD is expecting Low Income Housing Tax Credits this fall for its affordable housing project in Woodstock. CDBG funds were approved earlier this month. He also mentioned that the former pharmacy building at 12 King's Square in Whitefield will be redeveloped into 3 or 4 residential units above, and one commercial space on the ground floor. Harrison also reminded the group that AHEAD is available for free technical assistance regarding housing development.

**Amy Bassett (SBA)** updated the group on SBA's programs. In particular, a strong focus is being taken on the outdoor recreation industry, as well as veteran entrepreneurship and access to capital. She also mentioned an online training program for new businesses, and that SBA is looking for participants statewide, but would like to see more interest from North Country businesses. Additionally, SBA Small Business Awards nominations are due by December 7<sup>th</sup>.

46 **Ben Amsden (NH Charitable Foundation)** discussed NHCF's programs. In  
47 particular, they are wrapping up the current round of Community Grants which will  
48 only be for one year this round since the program is being revamped in 2024.  
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50 **Chuck Henderson (Senator Shaheen's office)** told the group of a  
51 Congressionally Designated spending project for the Town of Whitefield that will  
52 correct a long-standing stormwater drainage issue on Union Street there. He also  
53 mentioned that a lot of effort is being made on the recent change in forest land  
54 ownership in the Connecticut River Headwaters area. The new owners (Blue  
55 Source) are more interested in managing the land for carbon offsets instead of  
56 timber harvesting. The result will mean less cutting and, therefore, less available  
57 wood to supply the markets in the region.  
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59 **Michelle Beaudin (GRDC)** confirmed that the Community Navigator program is  
60 ending as of 12/31/23. However, a revised MicroEnterprise program (CDFA) will  
61 help to fill some of the gap once Navigator ends. She highlighted outreach efforts  
62 to the BIPOC community and childcare providers, as well as strong lending in the  
63 first five months of the year, exceeding \$1M. GRDC is also planning a Lenders  
64 Roundtable (modeled after a program at Tuck Business School) with Lendistry,  
65 targeted to the BIPOC community.  
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68 **6. NEXT MEETING DATE CONFIRMED / ADJOURN**

69 Next meeting is December 15, 2023, at 10:00AM

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71 Glenn Coppelman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30AM.