

**Economic Development Commission – Meeting Notes 10/15/2018**

Attendees: Sue (chair), Ann, Paul, Geena, Robert Dwyer, Nolan,  
Guest: Brad Washburn (Planning Director), Ted Brovitz (EDC consultant) Fran Mcmillen (guest;  
member of Harbor Merchants Board); and Joby Norton (guest; Mullaney's Fish Market)

Discussion – Mullaney's Fish Market; Joby Norton

- Joby is seeking ideas for how to improve Mullaney's Fish Market – currently seeking Zoning Board and Planning Board approval for expansion of existing facilities
- Proposing a “green building” with solar panels, green space, and energy efficient storage of fresh fish
  - Propose to increase retail space from 150 sq feet to 400 sq feet
    - Include more retail offerings
  - Propose to increase processing space from 200 sq ft to 800 sq feet
    - Only company on the South Shore that processes fish, otherwise the fish has to travel to processing centers in Boston, New Bedford, or Gloucester, which increases costs
    - Anticipates 15-20% reduction in costs by processing fish at proposed facility, while also increasing profit for Mullaney's
  - Anticipates adding 10-15 new jobs
    - Currently has 6-8 Full Time Employees, and goal is to have around 20
    - Wants to cross train fisherman – additional income while not fishing; depending on weather and quotas usually only fish 80 days of the year
- Ultimate goal is to improve and expand his own business, and improve the fishing industry in Scituate Harbor
- Rebrand and promote local Scituate Fish – marketing ideas?
  - Let the public know when fishing boats are unloading – 2-3 times per week
    - Utilize social media
  - Local fish at Scituate schools with educational component
  - Local catch CSA – attempted in the past
  - Website/App ordering service – regular updates with daily catch information and ability to order through the website or App and pick up fresh fish next day
    - Currently being used, but could use improvements
  - Restaurant component?
    - Discussed pros and cons of adding restaurant to proposed space
    - Small space would only provide 140 seats
    - Focus on processing for now
    - Utilize space currently rented by Silent Chef?
  - Pros and Cons of branding “Scituate” fish – fluctuation in price as hardest obstacle
  - Take away items – frozen dinners in retail space
  - Restaurant demonstrations and competitions (such as oyster shucking)
  - Fish Fry @ Heritage Days
  - Farm to Table event – similar to that suggested by Paul at previous meetings; discussed potential names for event

- Plan is for EDC to work with Mullaney's on marketing local fish once town board approval is achieved.

#### Sea Scituate Directional Signage and Harbor Kiosk

- \$7000 for 16 signs
  - Ted and Brad will propose suggested locations for the signs at next meeting for EDC to vote on
- \$10,000 for informational kiosks
  - Concern with future maintenance costs
  - Want to ensure if we have a hand carved piece that it will not get destroyed by storms this winter
  - Need to select location that has high visibility and utility
  - Potential for sign that can be removed in bad weather
- Discussion of who is responsible for Harbor Walk signs?
  - Historical commission?

#### Commission Priorities

- Top priority – Greenbush District Zoning bylaw
  - Want to present at Spring town meeting
  - Need to meet with Planning Board
  - Want to plan another information session open to the public in early November
- Bringing the Harbor Merchants and Scituate Chamber of Commerce together to work on mutual goals in Scituate Harbor
  - Heritage Days – need to foster collaboration between the two groups
    - Outside vendors detract from local businesses
  - Many are members of both organizations – find common ground
- Budget plan needs to be completed by end of 2018 for next fiscal year
- Committee liaison assignments
  - North Scituate – Ann
  - Harbor – RJ (member) and Fran (guest)
  - Greenbush – Geena
  - Humarock – needs to be filled
- Events Committee
  - Discussed more at next meeting with budget priorities
  - Add Scituate fish to First Fridays
  - Farm to fork event to promote local food

#### Planning and Development Updates

- Potential for zoning grant in North Scituate
- Interviewing consultant for Master Plan
  - Master Plan will shape vision for the town
  - Intend to form group with liaisons from all town committees and boards for input and guidance for the master plan – 12-18 month process
- Housing Production Grant Plan – adding affordable housing in zoning bylaws
- Waiting on Mass Works Grant – should know by end of the month
- Regional Sewer Meeting – 1 to 2 weeks ago

- Towns pick top priority areas to add sewer
  - Scituate has selected North Scituate
- Momentum in meetings to move forward with regional sewer project

Old/New Business

- Want to follow up with group representing North Scituate to support their effort
- Fernanda Copeland – point of contact for new organization

Approved November 19, 2018