

Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes – June 27, 2022 @6:30 pm via zoom

Committee Chair: Susan Di Pesa

Call to order: 6:33 pm

Location: virtual

Attendees: Sue Di Pesa, Paul Bartkiewicz, Geena Savage, Fran McMillan, Karen Canfield, Kyle Boyd, Freya Schlegel, Ray Voelker

Approval of May 2022 minutes. Motion made by Paul Bartkiewicz, seconded by Geena Savage and unanimously approved

No new business or review of any pending bills under the Municipal Modernization Act.

Chairperson Report: Sue Di Pesa, last meeting of the fiscal year. Focus shall continue to be on Scituate Visitors Center and working with the organized business associations to foster coordinated efforts to improve the business climate for all. The harbor district needs attention to vandalism, lighting, benches, repair of bandstand, trash cans. An overall plan needs to be completed and implemented and Sue is suggesting that it come from EDC. Sue took a moment to thank Commission members Matt Nelson and Jack McInnis for their service for the past three years.

Selectboard liaison: Karen Canfield updated us on the NS sewer negotiation. It is moving to become reality but it's glacially slow process. More pressure is being applied by Scituate on Cohasset so that regional funding will not be squandered. Scituate is also continuing to develop "plan B" as an alternate plan if the Cohasset plan does not come together soon. Special town meeting has been moved to Sept and the warrant is closed after 6/29/22. The most important issue is the support of the new water treatment plant and it's location. Public forums have been happening and will continue to happen. Karen will look into the vandalism concern in the harbor. Harbor parking is another issue that has come before the selectboard.

Director of Planning and development, Kyle Boyd: Many grants have been applied for regarding beach nourishment for Minot, supplemental funding for Pier 44 project, hazard mitigation, harbor lighting and more. The NS Canopy project has been awarded to a contractor. The kiosk will be picked up and installed in the harbor. More discussion on kiosk location necessary. Port a potty will be delivered to NS. Some discussion about adding more in the harbor. The bids are due for the design on the Pier 44 project on 6/30/22. An intern for EDC has been posted and Kyle is waiting for responses.

Sister City, Ray Voelker: The sister city committee has reinstated the exchange program with Ireland with applications in process for a 10 day visit in March, 2023. The SS Irish Heritage Trail is moving along very nicely with generous funding from various organizations. Very active marketing of the trail is happening courtesy of a joint grant with See Plymouth.

Sharb : SHARC : Paul Bartkiewicz: A very well attended pre bid meeting for the design contract for the project at Pier 44 was held a few weeks ago with 17 design firms. Bids are due at the end of June and will be reviewed by Paul and SHARC member Patrice Maye, Corey Miles and other Town Scituate staff. More info will be shared at our next EDC meeting.

Scituate Visitors Center, Fran McMillan: SVC is humming along nicely as a result of a lot of work being done by the SVC committee over the winter. It's a fantastic website that has been well received. The town video has drawn many new views on the site and the 1 million emails that will go out at the end of June should be another boost to the analytics. SVC has new window "clings" that direct people to the site via a QR code and the app has been successful as well. Local business organizations are understanding that SVC is not competing with business organizations. It's purpose to promote visitors to Scituate to patronize all businesses.

Next tentative meeting date: July 18, 2022 at Scituate Public Library.

Adjourn: 7:45 pm

Submitted by Sue Di Pesa

Approved: August 15, 2022