

TOWN OF SCITUATE
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Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes - May 17th, 2021 @ 6:30 pm

Committee Chair: Susan Dipesa

The mission of the Economic Development Commission is to enhance the existing business community, attract new business, attract new customers, and encourage redevelopment and new development as may be advisable in order to increase the Town's property tax revenues, income, job base, and overall economic health.

Date: May 17th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Attendees: Sue DiPesa (chair), Paul Bartkiewicz, Geena Savage, Matt Nelson and Susanne Hofmeister

Members of the public: Kyle Boyd (Town Planner), Kevin Cafferty (Head of DPW), Amy Linnell (Liaison NSV), Seth Pfeiffer (SCTV), Kelly Bower, Bob MacLean (Planning Board), Carla Nee (Scituate Farmer's Market)

Minutes of Last Meeting: Minutes of February 2021 and from March 2021 are approved.

Call to Order: Sue Dipesa called the meeting to order on 6:35 pm.

Agenda:

Old/New Business:

- Introductions
- Approve the EDC's meeting minutes - April 2021 motioned to approve from Paul Bartkiewicz, second by Mat Elder, all in favor, minutes are approved.
- Review, approve and sign pending bills - Review approved bills under the Municipal Modernization Act

Election of Officers:

- Chair: Sue Di Pesa
- Vice Chair - Susi Hofmeister

Chairperson Report: Sue Dipesa

- Select Board Update - Karen Canfield

Committee reports:

- Pier 44 Re-use and Water Resources - Paul
- Visitor Center presentation
 - VOTE Funds request
- Scituate Harbor Business Association Funds Request - VOTE

Discussion: Business District Reports:

- North Scituate - Amy/Caitlin
- Scituate Harbor - Fran McMillen
- Greenbush - Matt Elder
- Friends of North Scituate - Susi
- North Scituate Sewer and Zoning - Sue
- Pier 44 Re-use and Water Resources - Paul

Chairperson Report: Sue welcomed Kevin Cafferty, the head of DPW to give an update on the projects in town. Kevin has no new information about the sewer talks with Cohasset. He reports that the new sewer system for Cedar Point is nearly completed and reminds everybody that it was funded by a grant, made possible by the Drew project in Greenbush. This new building will get on town sewer. The new sewer system in Cedar Point will reduce I and I of about 20.000 up to a 100.000 gallons, so this will be significant. Environmental Partners from Engineering out of Quincy will start a new study about I and I in Scituate, which will help to reduce it even further in the future. The plan after discussion with the select board and the TA is to reduce enough I and I to increase the capacity at our treatment facility to sewer NSV, if the talks with the town of Cohasset fall through.

A complete heavy duty flushing of the fresh water lines were done in the spring, which will reduce brown water issues. There was a question about the priority of sewer for NSV and the sewer laws in town dictate that all buildings, which are on properties with an active sewer line, have the right to tie into the sewer line. This happened with the Greenbush apartment buildings next to Gunther Tooties. The land owner owned this property, that used to sewer three houses and turned those into three large apartment buildings, but the town could not deny him to tie into town sewer, because his property was next to an active sewer line. Another question came up about the apartment complex planned by Jack Livingston on 3A. He teamed up with the Toll Brothers and they are planning to build up to 228 units, but they are not getting town sewer. Instead they will build their own sewer system. The town already has significant fresh water problems. They don't get good pressure and quantity in that location. With an addition of three story buildings, these problems will be worsen. It is going through the building department, because it is a 40b. 25% of the units will be affordable, which will help the town to get over the requested affordable housing ratio by the state.

DPW is looking into designing a new water treatment plant. Also a new green sand filter was installed at well 18 to get iron and manganese out. Kevin invites the EDC to tour the water facilities. Kevin explains that the town can't deny people to develop their land, even if we don't have enough fresh water. The state will come in and will put more and more restrictions on residents to make the water last. Our biggest problem are the sprinkler system, even which restrictions in place starting at the beginning of May, people are using their sprinklers, which ended up in a 30% more water usage in just one week.

Another question comes up about the train canopy project in NSV. The Friends of NSV lined up two contractors to finish the ceiling work and the town would have to send out the bid again for this work. The town sent out those bids in December 2020, but nobody bid on it. Kevin agrees, that it would be great to get this project completed, but he has all his men out in the fields starting the new water projects. Nobody has time to do bid work in the office. Usually, these CPC projects are done in the winter. It is not only the bidding work, but you have to get out to the construction site. Also, when the first two phases of the project were done in 2020, it took a lot more time, then DPW thought. Arthur Beal was in the office on a daily basis and somebody from the town had to be at the construction site every other day. DPW got a lot of complaints from the business in NSV, because the construction site used a lot of parking space and interrupt their businesses. Kyle offers to help get the train canopy project in the queue of the town's projects. John Clarkson will help Kyle with grant writing. He will make a matrix where all plans

and projects asking for grants would be lined up, and will be worked on, to better organize grant applications. This will make Scituate more effective and put us in a better position for the future. Building relationships with all the agencies, will help with communication. Interviews for the coastal management position are done right now and it will free up Kyle for his planning position. The way finding project, initiated by EDC last year, has to be finished. There is a kiosk which belongs in the harbor and Sue will follow up on the status of this project.

Committee reports:

- Pier 44 Re-use and Water Resources - Paul: The select board formed a commission for the Pier 44 Re-use. It will be led by Andrew Goodrich and it will consist of representatives from other town commissions (including harbor cultural, EDC, coastal advisory, disabilities, recreation and water ways). The focus will be on park and recreation use and access for people with disabilities.
- Visitor Center - Geena: After the presentation to the EDC, the visitor center presented to the chamber of commerce, the select board, the Marshfield chamber of commerce, South Shore chamber of commerce, South Shore young professionals, and See Plymouth. Lea Filson, president of See Plymouth, will be a guest on the advisory board meeting on May 24th and she will give a talk about tourism using numbers generated in the town of Scituate based on credit card receipts. Another big topic is to launch the website in June.
- Grants review committee: First meeting was held, and work starts on joining efforts. Sorting through grant opportunities, looking for ways to apply and fulfill different requirements.

Discussion Business District Reports:

North Scituate- Amy: On May 4th was the first North Scituate Business Association meeting with all the new businesses to reconnect and plan ahead. There are no empty store fronts in North Scituate. Planning for big outside event, maybe around heritage day. Maybe an alternative to First Fridays in the harbor, First Thursdays in NSV. Fall for Scituate and Christmas in the Village are in planning. New young energy is infiltrating NSV. They will meet every first Tuesday of the month. Kelly mentions that Doug Litchfield would like to provide planters to NSV.

Harbor - Kelly: First Fridays started and it was well attended. Good promotion on social media. **Friends of NSV:** The Friends might be able to install the last banners with help from DPW this week. Light bulbs will be exchanged by a company the town hired. Susi will provide a map where the non-functioning light bulbs will be marked and she will get it to the highway department.

Budget: There are \$3,700 remaining in the budget. The Scituate Farmer's Market are asking for \$1,980. Paul moves the motion to approve \$1980 for the Farmer's Market and Susi seconds it. All are in favor. \$1980 is approved for the Farmer's Market.

The Farmer's Market has to provide an invoice. Geena suggests to use our ties to See Plymouth to get the Farmer's Market more exposed. Susi suggests to relocate the Farmer's Market to NSV, in front of the playground, where it used to be. The Friends of NSV, the Visitor Center and the EDC could help promote it.

Next EDC meeting: June 14th, 2021

Adjournment 7:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Susanne Hofmeister 05/24/21

