

Economic Development Commission Meeting Minutes - September 20, 2021 @ 6:30 pm

Committee Chair: Susan DiPesa

2021 OCT 20 AM 10:46

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: September 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Scituate Library - Large Conference Room, 85 Branch Street

Attendees: Sue DiPesa (chair), Susanne Hofmeister (co-chair), Paul Bartkiewicz, Fran McMillen, Matt Nelson

Members of the public: Kevin Cafferty (Head of DPW), Amy Linnell (Liaison NSV), Susan Fiore (SCC), Kate Logar (Friends of NSV), Matt Elder

Minutes of Last Meeting: Minutes of August 2021 are approved.

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

Agenda:

Old/New Business:

- Call to Order
- Approve the EDC's meeting minutes -August 2021
- Review, approve and sign pending bills - Review approved bills under the Municipal Modernization Act

Chairperson Report: Sue DiPesa

Director of Planning Board: Kyle Boyd

Town Update: TBD

Committee reports:

- Pier 44 - Paul B.
- Widows Walk - Jack M
- Cultural Committee - Sue D
- Sister City - Geena S

Discussion: Business District Reports:

- North Scituate - Amy/Caitlin
- Scituate Harbor - TBD
- Greenbush - Matt Elder
- Friends of North Scituate - Susi Hofmeister

Chairperson Report: Sue gives an overview of activities the EDC is involved in. There will be a video of Scituate produced with focus on arts and history sponsored by the EDC. A round table is planned with all merchant organizations in town, to improve communication and combine efforts. Grants are explored together with the town planner Kyle Boyd, applications for those are due in December and January. Kyle is on double duty again, he serves as the Scituate town planner and coastal manager at the same time, so his time is limited.

Sue welcomed Kevin Cafferty, the head of DPW to give an update on the projects in town. Kevin invites everybody to the Sanitary Sewer Presentation at the Select Board meeting on September 22nd. He states that with the new sewer system at Cedar Point and other repairs and maintenance ups to 100.000 gallons/day of influx was removed. The need for a fully developed North Scituate Village in the future is estimated to be 100K gallons per day. The town is still working on an independent plan to provide sewage for NSV with our system. Meanwhile, the towns of Scituate and Hull have drafted an agreement for the town of Cohasset to be signed in the near future.

DPW is designing a new water treatment plant.

Committee reports:

- Pier 44 Re-use and Water Resources - Paul: The Pier 44 commission has yet to start working on the plan to develop a new park. At EDC it was discussed that the Pier 44 property is located in the cultural harbor district and that also CPC funding and even MBTA money could be used.
- Widows Walk: Renovation is ongoing, they are \$200.000 over budget already. November 1st is the planned opening day. They are looking for somebody to run the restaurant year round. 160 people can be seated, 90 outside.
- Business Group Round Table: A round table for all business groups in Scituate, including: SCC, SH Merchants, NSBA, Friends of NSV and Greenbush, is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 22nd.
- Cultural Committee- Sue: The art walk was a success.

Discussion Business District Reports:

North Scituate- Amy: Fall for Scituate will take place on Sunday, October 24th from 12-4 pm. There will be a kid zone with a petting zoo, hayrides, face paintings and more. Katie Walsh will open a bridal service in the former CT Outfitter location. Remodeling of that shop is underway. No information, who will go into the former comcast/yarn shop.

Harbor - Fran: First Friday was good. The building of the former Sylvia's by the sea is very nicely remodeled and will be split up in three spaces. In one space a wine bar will be moving in. In the old Bundle of Hope space a Brazilian jiu-jitsu studio will be opened. In the old Riva's place, the construction of the new kitchen takes longer than planned. The Asian restaurant will open at a later date. And the former Bank of America building offers office space.

Greenbush- Matt: The construction of the gas station moves along. The same is true for the Drew construction. BirchBarn Design is very busy and doing great. Untold Brewery just celebrated its 4 th Anniversary. There is talk about getting organized and establishing a Greenish Business Association.

Friends of NSV- Kate Logar: The Friends offered their support in promoting The Fall for Scituate to the NSBA. The Friends also tried to collect more information about the status of the Jamie's Pub property. Kate was able to talk to the town clerk about unpaid property taxes by the owner of that property. However, the town did not want to disclose the amount of debt and for

how long this is going on. But they stated that this property is under tax title. Tax title is a lien in which the City takes legal ownership of property because of unpaid property taxes and allows the owner the right to redeem the property by paying the delinquent tax balance. Maybe this opens more possibilities to clean up the site and make it safe. Amy Linell states that she sees a lot of teenagers riding their bicycles around the old Jamie's Pub property and that the construction fence is not closed and leaves loops and holes for this teenagers to explore. Kate also found out that Jamie's Pub owner does not hold liquor license anymore.

SCC- Susan: Heritage Days was a success. Plans to hold it next year at Cole Parkway again and expand. Good feedback on keeping Front Street open. Vendors did great. Jerry's building in the harbor is an eyesore. Question, how could he be persuaded to fix the broken front window and to remove the offensive sign in his front window.

Next EDC meeting: October 18th, 2021

Adjournment 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Susanne Hofmeister 10/15/21

