

On June 10, 2021, on a motion by Mary Vilbon, seconded by Joanne Crowley, the committee voted 4-0 to approve these minutes.

Town of Yarmouth

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING OF
May 27, 2021

The Yarmouth Community & Economic Development Committee held a Remote Business Meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2021. The meeting was conducted through Zoom videoconferencing.

Committee Members Present: Jack McCormack, Stephen O'Neil, Ken Smith, Joanne Crowley and Mary Vilbon

Staff: Kyle Pedicini, Economic Development Coordinator

YARMOUTH TOWN CLERK
'21JUN11PM12:34 REC

The meeting was opened by Ken Smith at 4:00pm

1. Reorganization of Committee Officers

Kyle Pedicini, Economic Development Coordinator, stated that with Peter Smith winning election to the Board of Selectmen, he would need to resign from the Community and Economic Development Committee. Therefore the committee needed to elect a new Chairman. The committee agreed to place a term limit for the Chairman position of two years going forward.

Vote: On a motion from Stephen O'Neil, seconded by Jack McCormack, the Committee voted to appoint Ken Smith as Chairman of the committee, by a vote of 4-0-1 (Ken Smith abstained).

Vote: On a motion from Mary Vilbon, seconded by Jack McCormack, the Committee voted to appoint Stephen O'Neill as Vice-Chairman of the committee, by a vote of 4-0-1 (Stephen O'Neill abstained).

2. Request for Funding – Drive-In Site Snow Fencing

Kyle Pedicini, Economic Development Coordinator, explained that the town needed to install snow fencing at the Drive-In site for the events taking place there this summer in order to protect Parker's River from trash. It was explained that the fencing materials cost about \$1,500, but the town requested \$2,000 for a small contingency for the project. Installation will take a day or two and would either be performed by a local volunteer organization or by Mr. Pedicini. Committee members agreed to the funding request but emphasized that it would be a one-time purchase as the Town should look to re-use these materials going forward. Committee members also conditioned the purchase to ensure that events would proceed at the Drive-In before purchasing the materials.

Vote: On a motion from Stephen O'Neil, seconded by Jack McCormack, the Committee voted to allocate \$2,000 from physical improvements for Drive-In Site improvements, by a vote of 5-0.

3. Great Island Plaza Letter of Support

Kyle Pedicini presented the request from the committee for a letter of support for the Great Island Plaza project. It was explained that the property was applying for an Underutilized Property Program through MassDevelopment seeking grant funds to help their development efforts.

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Committee members noted that this property has long been blighted and in need of redevelopment. It was noted that voters at the 2019 Special Town Meeting approved a zoning change for this property to allow for an easier path to development, indicating local support for this project. Committee members noted this proposal was consistent with the Town's Master Plan and also received approval from the Town's Zoning Board of Appeals. As such, committee members agreed to support the grant application with a letter of support.

Vote: On a motion from Stephen O'Neil, seconded by Jack McCormack, the Committee voted to write a letter of support for the Great Island Plaza Underutilized Property Program Application, by a vote of 5-0.

4. Yarmouth Port Common Drainage Discussion

Committee members discussed the Yarmouth Port Common drainage project. Kyle Pedicini presented the drainage report along with comments from the Conservation Department and a couple committee members. Stephen O'Neill explained that he was opposed to wetlands solutions and suggested installing a Cape Cod Berm to direct flooding to the catch basins. Joanne Crowley presented the Route 6a streetscapes improvements report which provided some suggested improvements for the area, including a crosswalk with curbing. Committee members agreed that a good next step would be to set up a meeting between Mr. O'Neill, Ms. Crowley, and the DPW Director Jeff Colby in order to discuss potential next steps.

5. Committee Member Updates

Mary Vilbon, Chamber of Commerce Director, clarified a couple of topics that recently came before the committee. In response to concerns that were raised at the Annual Town Meeting, it was explained that none of the Tourism Revenue Preservation Funds are used to maintain the Visitors Center on Route 6. It was also explained that the Chamber of Commerce had requested an additional \$5,000 to come from CARES Act funds for the sale of stickers at the Chamber. It was noted that it was never the intention of the Chamber of Commerce to obtain these additional funds through the Tourism Revenue Preservation Fund.

6. Staff Updates

Kyle Pedicini stated that with Town Hall opening back up on June 1st, the committee could resume holding in-person meetings if they so desired. The committee agreed to have their next meeting in person. Mr. Pedicini also provided an update on the town's broadband planning, and stated the town was signing a contract for the Community Compact IT grant project to hook up additional municipal facilities to fiber. The Utility Box Wrap project was also discussed and Mr. Pedicini explained that the town could proceed with the project a couple of different ways. One way would be to update the boxes with nice pictures of Yarmouth and another way would be to incorporate public art through the Cultural Center. Committee members expressed a preference for using pictures as it would be easier and quicker to complete.

7. Upcoming Meetings

The next CEDC meeting will take place in person on June 10, 2021 and the committee will discuss goals.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15pm