

Kennebunk Economic Development Committee

Minutes

Thursday, May 4, 2023, 4:30 P.M.

Room 306

Attending Members: Steve Sawyer (Chair), Maureen Flaherty (Vice Chair), Gary Dugas, June Huston, and Ashley O'Brian.

Members Absent: Chris Babcock, Randy Gates, and Ashley Padget.

Also in attendance: Laura Dolce (KK&A C of C), Heather Balsler (Town Manager), Chris Osterrieder PE (Director of Community Development), and Karen Winton (Deputy Director of Community Development).

- 1) Open Meeting by Steve S. at 4:30 PM.
- 2) Minutes from April 6, 2023 – No vote for lack of attendees from that meeting.
- 3) Old Business:
 - a. Workforce Transportation: Steve S. – Stop locations need to be approved by the Town. May 24 will be the formal announcement by the State. Anticipated start date is July 1, 2023. Go Maine will help with emergency transportation.
 - b. Cable franchise agreement & ordinance update: Heather B. – It is on the Ordinance Committee agenda, but there are several items ahead of it.
 - c. Connectivity, cell tower: Steve S. – Selectboard needs input from town on need/desire for a higher tower. KKW not considering next steps for water tower (on Hillcrest Drive) until fall.
 - d. Lower Village Project update: Steve S. – Funding status on hold until next fiscal year starting in October 2023.
 - e. Creation of a new Business Development Handbook – Karen W. - Town Clerk is working on items that go through their office. Planning and Codes are working on their part. New E.V.D. will be able to help.
- 4) New business:
 - a. Status of Economic Vitality Director: Heather B. – They are in the process of reviewing applicants and making a selection.
 - b. Shoreline Explorer Update: Steve S. – Not happening again this year for lack of drivers.
 - c. Current Village Area Parking Requirements/Changes: Chris O. – focus on Lower Village. Steve S. – need to find out what businesses want/need.
 - d. EDC goals:
 - a) Steve S. – discussed purpose of EDC – looking at zoning/business impediments, not attracting businesses, what projects should we be working on, are we being held up waiting for Economic Vitality Director?
 - b) Need direction from the Selectboard, what do they need us to do?
 - c) Chris O. – suggest we work on the TIF budget process and goals.
 - d) Discussed that we don't have much to do until these questions are considered, Motion by June H., seconded by Maureen to suspend EDC meetings until September, with the note that a meeting can be called by the Chair – approved, all in favor.
 - e. Cruise Ship Tour Bus Parking Update: Laura D. – Kennebunkport has a group trying to eliminate tour bus parking. At this point all parking in Kennebunk is scheduled to be located behind the Pilot House this season.
 - f. Committee Membership update: Steve S. – Chris is not renewing. Discussed if we should look at our By-laws – should they be changed to encourage more members from West Kennebunk or Lower Village?
- 5) Adjourn at 6:50 PM

respectfully submitted: Gary Dugas