

Kennebunk Economic Development Committee  
Minutes  
Thursday – July 7, 2022, 4:30 P.M.  
Room 307

Attending Members: June Huston (Chair), Maureen Flaherty (Vice Chair), Gary Dugas, Steve Sawyer, Randy Gates and Chris Babcock.

Members Absent: None.

Also in attendance: Chris Osterrieder, P.E. (Director of Community Development), and Karen Winton (Deputy Director of Community Development).

- 1) Open Meeting by June H. at 4:30 PM.
- 2) Minutes from June 2nd - Motion by Maureen F., 2<sup>nd</sup> by June H., Approved as presented.
- 3) Public Comments - Randy G. questioned the status of the Economic Director position. The Board discussed the hiring process, the timing (now or by new Town manager), the relationship the EDC will have with the new director, and with the Select Board.
- 4) Election of Officers: Motion by June H., Second by Maureen F. for Steve S. to be Chair, Approved. Motion by Chris B., Second by Gary D. for Maureen F. to remain as Vice Chair, Approved. Motion by Steve S., second by Randy G. for Gary D. to remain as Secretary, Approved.
- 5) Branding - Maureen F.:
  - a. From the survey data – revisit with existing businesses to get a better understanding of their comments on the survey.
  - b. Have Pan Atlantic present their findings to the Selectboard (possibly at a joint meeting with the EDC).
  - c. Looking for marketing/branding ideas from Pan Atlantic to help Tina.
- 6) Connectivity – Steve S.
  - a. State & Federal money available to help improve the internet. Preti Flaherty will help with grants.
  - b. Looking into the possibility of Kennebunk creating a public utility to develop and operate an improved internet system.
- 7) Transportation – Steve S.
  - a. Bus from Sanford to Turnpike Plaza – 7 days a week. Your County Community Action can't get enough drivers to do it. Zoom is interested – need to expand (currently Biddeford, Saco & OOB) to Sanford and Kennebunk.
  - b. State has \$5,000,000 available for work force transportation. \$250,000 per year grant available, 20% match, for two years.  
Who pays the 20%?
  - c. Working with the Chamber to see what local major employers need – design a route.
- 8) Main Street – Chris B.:
  - a. Membership is \$295/year – will come out of EDC budget.
  - b. Chris will work with Town Staff (Kathy Nolette) to fill out paperwork.
- 9) Downtown Master Plan – Maureen F.
  - a. Looking at area from Rte 9A up to Summer Street. What opportunities exist?
  - b. Work with the Universities – students can help.
- 10) Projects list – Steve S. – Discussed with the board: the makeup of the EDC (need 2 new members). Randy G. and Laura D. are working on business visitation list, June is working on the potential train stop. Should the Crane report be updated, should we have a quarterly newsletter, and a do we need a new business packet?

11) Adjourn at 6:33 PM

respectfully submitted: Gary Dugas