

Meeting minutes from the 9/1 Meeting [of the Kennebunk Economic Development Committee, 2022, taken by Chris Babcock]:

4:40PM - Steve commenced the meeting.

Steve Sawyer, Laura Dolce, Ashley O'Brien, Karen Winton, Chris Osterrieder, Maureen Flaherty, Kortney Nadeau, Chris Babcock were members in attendance. Paul Tamil was a member of the community attending.

Public Comment - Paul Tamil introduced himself as a member of the town shadowing the committee with an interest to join.

Staff Comment - Chris O. and Karen W.: Work with CDBG ongoing, two businesses in Town given grants. Nest & Mullen received two grants of \$200k and \$50k respectively.

EDA Grant from 2018 created a coastal map predicting storm surge impact on Kennebunk. Map was presented at a recent town meeting, predicts major potential impacts to local business on the water. Climate Action Plan committee met for the first time on 8/31.

Short term rentals vital to town economy. Town does not currently have a clear idea of how to regulate but will continue to make progress with local regulation.

Old Business

Steve - Joel Downs is coming to the October meeting to speak. Business Inventory is done, consists of about 750 businesses.

Maureen - Marketing: Pan Atlantic presented findings at 8/16 Select Board meeting. Next steps, partnering with Randy and Laura for business outreach and focus groups.

Steve/Chris B. - Connectivity: Go Net Speed Fiber ISP meeting with several members next Friday 9/9
Cable TV ordinance revision submitted to the Select Board Ordinance committee by Chris B. Contains updated language provided to us by Kristin Collins (attorney at Preti Flaherty) and adopted by Portland and other Maine communities.

Cable TV Franchise agreement is underway with a proposal from Casco Bay associates to provide consulting services to manage Kennebunk's franchise agreement with Charter/Spectrum

Steve - Workforce Transportation: Karen is finalizing application language. Laura and Steve are finalizing funding options with local businesses, about halfway to \$50k in funding. State funding can provide \$500k. Steve thinks we have an advantage over other grant applicants because we are working with an established transportation provider. After 2 years, if the route is successful we could ask the state to cementing the route in the state transportation system.

Laura - Business Outreach: Working on refining questionnaire for businesses, would like to use the questions to help drive organic conversation. Kortney suggests providing businesses with an 'executive memo' before hitting the streets with the questions.

Chris B. - Main Street America membership: Accounts have been created and guides and materials have been received.

Train - No Update

Economic Development Plan - Conversation with Mike Crane happened last week with more development and refinement underway.

Lower Village Master Plan - Roughly \$10M federal level/state level competitive grant available for application. Reviewing projects beginning in 2023.'

Master Plan Downtown - Still talking Spring '23, still thinking Harvard/UNE

Membership - No interest from solicited West K/Lower Village candidates

New Business

Route 1 North - There's money approved for R1N revitalization, can it be used for something? There was a proposed plan for the money but received significant pushback.

Discussed when to advertise the EDD position posting. No decision or recommendation.

Motion to adjourn made by Chris B at 6:15PM, seconded by Steve, passed by all present members.