



Town of Barnstable
Growth Management Department
Economic Development Commission

www.town.barnstable.ma.us/economicdevelopmentcommission

EDC Meeting Notes
November 22, 2016

Members Present: Alan Feltham, Hartley Johnson, Hank Farnham, Tom Geiler

Absent: Chris Kehoe, Ted Wurzburg, Michael Schulz

Also Present: Mark Ells - Town Manager, Town Councilor - Eric Steinhilber, Stacey Hurwitz - Administrative Assistant, Mike Trovato – Economic Development Specialist

New Meeting Start Time. Alan Feltham called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm. Quorum not met.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: *Due to lack of quorum, the minutes from October were tabled until the next meeting.*

New Business: Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce Representative on Blue Economy - Bert Jackson: Director of Community Outreach.

Blue Economy: What is Blue Economy? Everything to do with water marine aquatics, fishing, tourism and recreation.

History of Blue Economy:

Colonial – fished for trade

Production – Whaling, Salt Making

Tourism – 1915, so over the last 100 years.

Tourism economy is seasonal & jobs related to tourism are not well paying jobs.

Looking to a sustainable future in Blue Economy – The term is not new. It is used worldwide. Water is our past, present and future. The quality of our water is a driver of our economy, so we need to protect our water.

Chart:

Dark Blue – Commercial Fishing, research, aqua robotics, recreation, water transportation (at the center)

Medium Blue – Economy that supports the industries in Dark Blue (ring around the center)

Light Blue – All other Economy (outer circle)

Cape Cod Chamber launched the Blue Economy program on July 1st. The program is funded by a Sea Port Grant. Most of the grants are infrastructure related but they were able to secure a grant to support this program. Heading up the Program: Leslie-Ann Mcgee, Chris Adams, Peter Karlson & Bert Jackson.

Project Vision: Catalyze Cape Coastal and Aquatic-based Regional Economy...

Wished Outcomes: Advance Maritime Economy. Diversify & Balance the regional economy through intelligent use of coastal assets. Ensure a sustainable Cape region both economically AND environmentally.

Blue Economy is already here on Cape Cod – We are looking on ways to capitalize on this.

Phase I:

- Gather Data
- Outreach & Engagement
- Plan Development. Plan Development is the goal for the first year

Social Mind Map - Examples; Water transportation, Research, Commercial Fishing & Aquaculture.

Outreach Goal: The Cape Cod Chamber wants everyone on Cape Cod to know what Blue Economy is.

Social Media Presence: Website - www.BlueCapeCod.Org, Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn (Group)

Listening Sessions: Nine listening sessions. The Chamber received different answers/priorities depending on where they were. Whale Watches, Fish Processing Plant (Provincetown feedback), Research & Marine Robotics (Woods Hole feedback)

Cape Coastal Conference on December 6th – free event at the Resort & Conference Center

Clarification: The Cape Cod Chamber Blue Economy program purview is strictly Water related.

Discussion: The EDC is interested in getting some of the data that is collected by the Chamber.

Jackson: We need to see the challenges as opportunities: Water challenges (wastewater, drinking water) – and develop industries to address our water challenges.

Two themed obstacles in the listening sessions: Affordable Housing & Workforce Training

Lifestyle aspects were mentioned too; off Cape is closer to Boston, more things to do, more culture, you can get more house for the money off Cape, transportation was also seen as an issue (the bridges).

Farnham: This is short term duration based on a one time grant. What happens when that is over?

Jackson is hoping to report the Phase I findings to the Sea Port Grant in March as well as the Cape Cod Chamber's plans for Phase II. Hoping to get additional funding at that time.

Geiler: Are there any sites left available on Cape Cod to build a Marine type facility?

Jackson: The Marinas are looking for a deep water certification.

Trovato: The depth is 12 feet in the middle of the channel (Hyannis). We just don't have the land based opportunities here. There are two ferries - most of everything else is privately owned, except for the beaches.

Hydroid, Teledyne Benthos, Onset Data Loggers, McLane Research Labs are all here supporting the Blue Economy. WHOI has a Technology Transfer Department. There is also Horseshoe Crab blood technology. It would be great to pull some of that high tech stuff to the Mid Cape.

Trovato: Challenge of getting the technology down this way. It has all clustered around Falmouth, Sandwich, Bourne. We need to get over that hurdle.

Jackson: The Blue Institute at Cape Cod is looking to offer higher end training programs. Judith Underwood is heading it up, they are looking at Yarmouth for a location. Certification through U-Mass. The goal is for people to come here & take classes for Marine technology because opportunities come where there is higher learning. Aqua-Gen has an algae based wastewater treatment technology. That's the kind of technology that can be used in a small cluster or community.

Feltham: Doesn't think land restraints are a challenge. Most of this is learning/brain power so you don't need a facility or land. People are working out of their homes.

Jackson: Broadband access was also seen as a challenge. They are working to develop the last mile so we have world-class connectivity here on Cape Cod. The timeframe is unknown on completion. It will take years to do and 150 million dollars in order to fiber the whole Cape. They are looking to do this town by town and also looking at alternate funding sources.

Trovato: Cape Space is plugged into Open Cape and it is live.

EDC Suggestions / Feedback:

- Outreach – Market Blue Economy and Educate the Community
- Communication and Collaboration on this goal (community wide)

GMD Update: Michael Trovato

- Cape Coastal Conference – December 6 & 7
- Public Parking Open House – November 30th, 5-8 pm
- Chic-Fil-A Grand Opening - December 1st at 9 am (5,000 sq ft building)
- Yoga Studio opening at 326 Main Street
- Mall & Downtown Occupancy is estimated at about 95%
- Top of Shop Housing – working on this so owners can take advantage of second story residential (fill demand for housing & maximize usage of space). Provide a 24/7 Business Support for existing businesses, would increase security of downtown. Designed as workforce housing. The object is to offer technical assistance to educate them on the process.
- New Project: Joe Laham - Cadillac Cape Cod on Yarmouth Rd., 22,000 sq. ft. operation
- Gateway Medical Zoning: Headed to Town Council to be put on agenda for December for the 1st hearing and January for the presentation itself.
- RFP – Marketing Cost Survey Results Meeting set up for December 12th with Growth Management

Johnson made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Geiler. Meeting adjourned at 4:06 pm.

Next BEDC meeting December 27, 2016

List of documents / exhibits used by the Commission at the meeting

- Exhibit A: Agenda dated November 22, 2016
- Exhibit B: Minutes dated October 25, 2016
- Exhibit C: Blue Economy Project – Power Point Presentation
- Exhibit D: Parking Open House Flyer

Respectfully submitted,
Stacey Hurwitz,
Administrative Assistant

Public files are available for viewing during normal business hours in the Growth Management office located on the 3rd floor of Town Hall, 367 Main Street, Hyannis

*** Further detail may be obtained by viewing the video via Channel 18 on demand at <http://www.town.barnstable.ma.us> ***