



**Town of Barnstable
Growth Management Department
Economic Development Commission**

www.town.barnstable.ma.us/economicdevelopmentcommission

**EDC Meeting Notes
July 26, 2016**

Members Present: Chris Kehoe - Chair, Hank Farnham, Hartley Johnson, Tom Geiler

Absent: Alan Feltham, Michael Schulz, Ted Wurzburg

Also Present: Stacey Peacock - Administrative Assistant, Mike Trovato – Economic Development Specialist

Chris Kehoe called the discussion to order at 2:35 pm. Quorum not met.

Minutes from March 22, 2016 tabled until August – due to lack of quorum.

****Due to lack of quorum the following is a brief summary from the meeting***

Mike Trovato - Economic Development Update:

Grand Openings: Ethan Allen & Local Juice (behind Little Beach Gallery). Also Work 'N Gear grand opening next week. The new Audi dealership will be coming to a completion shortly.

Ongoing/In the Works: Parking Study is still in progress – data gathering at this stage. Up and coming; Business Barnstable Website update & a new Business Guide for the Town. Mike to provide ongoing updates on the business guide.

Open Cape article in Cape Cod Times referenced. Open Cape is looking to expand their network. CrowdFiber online is a mapping initiative, allows them to collect data on use of service to pinpoint their market. New executive director is Steve Johnson. He would likely be willing to come speak with the EDC.

Geiler: Is there a map of Open Cape?

Trovato: There is a spine that runs up & down the Cape. They will be hooking people up off of that. Initially they were quoting a cost of up to \$55,000 a mile to get connected. Cape Space which is a co-shared office workspace is connected to Open Cape. Open Cape has office at Cape Space.

Questions for Mike Trovato:

Johnson: Sencorp White – update? Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) is looking for more space. Have we had any discussion with the management in Woods Hole? Have they articulated what they need?

Trovato: We did go out to talk to Sencorp White and put them in touch with the MA Office of Business Development / Maria Marasco. There is potential for more space where they are, depending on the square footage. We have spoken with WHOI but we don't know of any detailed specifications for their expansion at this point.

Geiler: They may want to keep the marine division together but we could talk to them about their airport needs. It is something we have that they don't have direct access to. For the Economic Development of this area the expansion of the airport needs to happen so we don't run out of space for bigger planes.

Kehoe: Boeing has shifted its production to smaller airplanes.

Trovato: There is currently a lot of interest in construction & renovation/rebuild type of projects in town.

Old Business:

Zoning Update Discussion: To include uses which were previously allowed/zoned. (Exhibit Gateway Medical District hand out). Next steps;

- Item needs to be put on the Agenda for the Planning Board
- Kehoe to move this along
- Needs to be voted on by the Planning Board & then go before the Town Council

New Business:

Grant Funding Opportunities (Exhibit C Funding Letter draft by Feltham)

- Goal: to have a third party meet with people who have dealt with the town - as an independent audit
- The EDSAT report brought up the regulatory process as a problem area
- It would be good to get independent or third party outside money to fund this audit

Farnham: There are millions of dollars that come into the regulatory department in this town which could be used for the audit. It would be beneficial if we could use those funds to make the process more efficient.

Johnson: Thinks if we hire an independent party it will give internal departments a bad taste about it, but sees the need for an independent audit.

Funding Priorities:

Johnson: It is pretty clear that the economic development priorities are parking improvements, dredging, Kennedy Legacy Trail, enhancements to Bismore Park & Recreation Facilities etc. Johnson reads from the Town Council FY 2017 Proposed Operating Budget Funding Priorities (Exhibit). It does not mention zoning or marketing therefore, economic development does not seem like a priority at all.

Farnham: You are reading off of the operating budgets of specific town departments. We should be looking at the strategic plan.

Kehoe & Farnham state we could have Eric Steinhilber or the Town Council President come in & explain the rationale of the Economic Strategic Plan.

The EDC discusses taking a look at the Strategic Plan.

Johnson sees a major disconnect between the BEDC and the Town Council, Growth Management & the Town Manager office. Johnson asked what has the Town ever asked us to do?

Kehoe: They have asked us for our opinion on the EDSAT report, Business Barnstable and feedback on the TIF. We have worked on and given feedback on all of these items.

Discussion on EDC accomplishments & participation on various projects. It is suggested that the EDC put together a tutorial on Economic Development; how it pertains to a Municipality and present it to the Town Council - have a marketing firm make the presentation to the Town Council directly.

Kehoe: Jo Anne Miller Buntich is getting in touch with municipalities who have done this type of Marketing to get more information and move us forward with our ask. We're not the only community that has done this.

Economic Development Strategic Plan Discussion:

The EDC needs to find out when the next strategic plan is going to occur. The plan is pretty general but none of it has been done. It's up to the EDC to follow through & make sure the strategic plan is being addressed.

Old Business

Marketing Plan – Request For Proposal

Farnham: Poses the question - Do we really need to continue as a committee?

Johnson: We asked them to get data on healthcare, schools etc., where is it?

Kehoe: Who isn't listening? When we request something, they do it. The Business Barnstable website has all the numbers we are looking for - maybe we need to review it and see what isn't on there. If the EDC wants the Town Manager here, I will ask him to be here in September (15 minutes of his time).

Farnham: What used to happen is the Chair & Vice Chair would meet with the Town Manager & Town Council President and Vice President to go over the goals of the commission with a hope they would keep that in mind during budget time. One on one meetings are incredibly helpful in getting things done.

Kehoe: Alan & I have sat down with the Town Manager every year and 3 months ago we met with the Assistant Town Manager and the Council President.

Farnham: Attendance & turnover is an issue with the EDC. The challenge to you, as the chair, is to be involved in what is going on upstairs. We need to make it more interesting, so people want to come to meetings.

Farnham agreed to work with Feltham on the Grant Ask Letter.

Future Guest Speaker Suggestions:

- Steve Johnson of Open Cape: Farnham would like to get an update on Open Cape. (Kehoe will invite)
- Town Manager & Town Council President have them together to talk to us. Our comments & questions need to be structured and thought out. Find out the economic development goals for the town.
- Eric Steinhilber – ask him how we can be part of the next strategic plan

Geiler: We are an advisory commission to the Town. I'd like to invite the Town Manager, Finance Director & the Town Council President to get an idea of where they would like to see us go or not go.

Zoning Updates & Reform:

Step 1: Have GMD make copies of the pertinent zoning districts and let the committee review them to see where we should start with zoning changes.

Geiler: Maybe we talk to the Highway Department to understand what options we have with widening the roads and making improvements to the roads?

Additional Items:

Time Change for EDC meetings and attendance discussed.

Discussion adjourned at 4:05 pm

Public Comment: None

Next BEDC meeting August 23, 2016.

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

Exhibit A: Agenda dated July 26, 2016

Exhibit B: Minutes from March 22, 2016

Exhibit B: Notes from June 28, 2016 meeting

Exhibit C: Grant Funding Letter - Draft

Respectfully submitted, Stacey Peacock, 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> ***