

Kennebunk Economic Development Committee

Minutes

Thursday – February 4, 2021 4:30 P.M.

Zoom Meeting

Attending Members: June Huston (Chair), Maureen Flaherty. (Vice Chair), Gary Dugas, Bob Fiore and Steve Sawyer.

Also in attendance: Blake Baldwin (Select Board Liaison), Laura Dolce (KK&A C of C), and Chris Osterrieder, PE (Director of Community Development).

Members Absent: Jonathan Johnson, Justin Young and Bob Georgitis.

- 1) Open Meeting by June H. at 4:32 PM.
- 2) Review minutes of December 17th, 2020 – Motion by Bob F., second by Steve S. – approved as presented. Review of the January 14th, 2021 minutes – Motion by Maureen F., second by Bob F. – approved as presented.
- 3) Public Comment – Howard Hall asked the status of the Rest Stop sale. Chris O. revealed what he knows (sale is still in play) and will get an update.
- 4) Introduction of new town Planner – Brittany Howard. Brittany gave a brief summary of past projects and discussed what she is working on now with the Town.
- 5) Telecommunications Ordinance Amendment update by Chris O.: Working on a zoning amendment to reclassify minor equipment as an accessory use, which would require CEO approval only. CEO could forward to Planning Board review if needed.
- 6) Preview of Tide, Taxes and Tactics Grant and Economic Vulnerability Analysis – Chris O.:
 - a. Led by Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission.
 - b. Involves towns of Kennebunk, Wells and York.
 - c. Looks at economic effects of sea rise and will develop adaption and resiliency ideas.
 - d. Will be a Zoom meeting 3/2/21.
- 7) Cares Act – brief discussion, Chris. O.:
 - a. Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission is the primary distributor of the money.
 - b. Has helped 52 businesses in Kennebunk, so far. \$2.4 Million.
 - c. Who to send money to and how to find out?
 - d. Most of the funds in phase 4 (the latest phase) are used up.
- 8) Connectivity Subcommittee update, Blake B.:
 - a. Working on a short & specific survey, the results of which will give a provider an idea on potential income.
 - b. GWI could possibly be a partner – they can run the network.
 - c. KLP can help – they own most of the poles and have the ability to install wires.
 - d. Discussed possible costs (\$17,500 to \$50,000 per mile) and distance – Kennebunk has about 125 mi. of road.
- 9) Branding Subcommittee, Maureen F.:
 - a. Tina Radel is working on survey questions. Results of the survey will be used for future guidance.
 - b. Group is looking for people to possibly do creative designs.
 - c. Maureen will be speaking to the Select board later this month.
 - d. A work plan, with specific deliverables, and time line, is being developed.
- 10) Misc. :
 - a. Bob F., would like to be invited to additional subcommittee meetings in order to become more familiar with the issues the EDC is working on.
 - b. Bob F. asked the status of the EDC COVID-19 fund (in May, EDC suggested taking \$50,000 from TIF for loans as needed) – Select board (per June H.) said it will not be used until the KDC fund is used up. Per Laura D., the KDC has completed 5 loans to date.

11) Adjourn at 5:44 PM

respectfully submitted: Gary Dugas