

Cambridge Economic Development Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2016

Present: Fonda Ripley, Chair, Laurie Cartwright, Ron Elliott, Mark Delaney, Bruce MacMillan, Justin Marsh, Jeff Coslett. Other invited: Mark Schilling, Zeke Zucker

1. Business:

- a. Fonda led a discussion of Open Meeting requirements. A quorum must be present to hold a meeting, discuss items of business, vote or otherwise make decisions, etc. Presently, CEDAC would need 5 members present to hold a meeting. A draft agenda must be posted in a public place prior to the meeting, and draft minutes must be posted within 5 days of the meeting.
- b. Justin Marsh was appointed a member of CEDAC by the Cambridge Select Board at their June 9 meeting
- c. Any budget request for the 2017 fiscal year will need to be submitted to the Select Board by October to be considered at Town Meeting in March 2017. Budget items are to be targeting economic development initiatives in the Town.

2. Rail Trail

- a. Zeke Zucker was invited to present a proposal for reimbursement of personal expenditures to acquire and mount signage advertising the location of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail at Cambridge Junction and at the Community Center. To date, Zeke has spent \$1,888.78 in personal funds with more anticipated. It was mentioned that the Lamoille Economic Development Corp had funding for other signage and brochures but this was complementary to and not intended for the signage being discussed. Bruce MacMillan mentioned that he would have access to funds for additional donations to pay for rail trail signage. Of the \$5,000 approved by the Town for economic development at the 2016 Town Meeting, Mark Delaney moved that \$2,000 be expended for the signage that has already occurred and to partially fund additional signage. Seconded by Fonda Ripley and unanimously approved.
- b. Mark Delaney discussed the efforts he has made toward the development of a web page to promote the rail trail. He estimated the cost of development would be \$500 to \$1,000 and is working on having this as a contribution from Smuggs. The annual fee for a URL is only about \$10/year. Hosting of the site would run from \$300 to \$500 per year. He is looking at hosting options and will report back next month. Mark or Ron Elliott will follow up with John Mandeville about possible funding from LEDC for web site development.
- c. The committee discussed the concept of using a portion of the funds allocated from the town budget as a mini-grant in an amount up to \$1,000. Interested persons would submit a proposal for how to effectively promote the rail trail. Parameters for the grant still to be determined. The consensus was to hold off further discussion until costs and funding for the web site are determined.

3. There was a general discussion of establishing a crosswalk across Route 15 so that trail users could travel from the Community Center to the Cambridge Greenway and the on to the rail trail. Further discussions would need to occur with the Jeffersonville village trustees and with Greg Tatro as the landowners. It was suggested that Rob Moore of LCPC be contacted for technical assistance. Fonda suggested calling a special meeting in August to discuss this matter.
4. August action items:
 - a. Next year budget request – items and amount
 - b. Web site development
 - c. Mini-grant
 - d. How to effectively put to use town owned property, including property acquired by tax sale or at the business park. Is this a task CEDAC has the capacity to take on?

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