



Economic Development Committee Minutes

17 June 2021

7:00 pm

Meeting held in Room 9, Acton Town Hall

These are the minutes of the EDC meeting of 6/17/21, held remotely at 7 pm

Called to Order: 7:15 pm

Members Present: Mike Majors, Ann Chang, Josh Fischel, Larry Kenah, David Cote, Derrick Chin, David Didriksen, Shirley Ming, Dan Malloy

Members Absent: Peter Daniel, Jon Benson, Catherine Usoff

**Preliminaries**

Call the Roll

I. **Regular Business**

1. Review of meeting minutes from previous meetings

- The minutes of June 3, 2021, were approved unanimously with minor corrections.

2. Public participation

- There are no members of the public present.

II. **New/Special Business**

3. EDC Statements at Town Meeting

- Should the EDC take a position on Article 14—Home Rule Petition?

Mike Majors quotes Milton Friedman. David Didriksen says we should not; it's procedural and has nothing to do with business. Larry Kenah agrees. So does the rest of the committee. David Didriksen says that the state controls more than we appreciate. The EDC will not take a stand on this.

- Support for Article 11—Drive-Up Window Facilities

Our consensus is that Josh will read his longer version if he's among the first speakers, and David's (Didriksen) condensed version if he's not.

- Opposition to Article 13—Regulation of Fossil Fuel Infrastructure

Josh reluctantly accepts David's (Didriksen) shorter version of what to read at Town Meeting.

4. Working Group Reports

- Dan Malloy has been corresponding with the people who are doing marketing for 50 Nagog, and they are in negotiations with a company for the entire site. They'll know

in the next couple of weeks if it's actually going to come to fruition. That task may be off the table; Shirley and Dan will look to see what other buildings might be candidates to market.

- Josh Fischel shares Catherine's update: "We have had some meetings with local businesses and are compiling the data as well as scheduling more meetings." We're also looking for a new member since (ahem) our membership is about to decrease by one.

### III. More Regular Business

#### 5. Updates from members

Ann Chang was thoroughly unimpressed with last night's Route 2A Corridor meeting over Zoom. Larry and Derrick also attended and left similarly disappointed; Larry said that, at some point, one of the presenters confused property owners and business owners. The survey they presented findings about was, according to Ann, bunk. They didn't know what the Crosstown Connector was, and they barely mentioned sewers, which several businesses have mentioned to Catherine Usoff as a real factor in their ability to do business.

Andrea Becerra, the town's new Sustainability Director, interviewed Larry Kenah and Derrick Chin about climate action and the EDC.

#### 6. Next meetings

- 5 August 2021 (Chris Hardy—Kelley's Corner Community Center)

Committee adjourns at 8:25 pm.

### IV. Consent Items

#### 7. None

#### Additional materials

- Draft meeting minutes from 3 June 2021

*The listed agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

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For more information about the Economic Development Committee, please send email to **EDC@actonma.gov**