

Approved Minutes

5/4/16 Maynard Economic Development Committee Minutes, Room 201, Maynard Town Building.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am.

Members present:

Andrew Scribner-MacLean, Chris Worthy, Dave Krijger, Lynda Thayer, Ron Calabria, Paul Nickelsberg, Bill Nemser, Melissa Levine-Piro, and Kate Hogan.

Other Attendees:

Tim Hess, Alma Moreno, and Karen Freker.

Minutes

4/5/2016 Minutes unanimously approved.

Presentation by Tim Hess on behalf of Alma Moreno of El Huipil:

Tim Hess presented a proposed plan by El Huipil to set up outdoor seating for Cinco de Mayo, as has been done for past years. The outdoor seating will be set up for 3 days, and they have requested a temporary extension to the liquor license to cover the outdoor area. They are presenting the plan to the Selectmen, but wanted to present to the EDC as well because part of this year's plan is a proposal to make the outdoor area permanent so that the area can be used all summer. The plan included drawings of the space that showed awnings covering the seating and wooden fencing with planters on top to act as barriers from the parking area.

The idea for this outdoor area is to work with the plan submitted by Peg Barringer to improve the Basin area. The plan included a proposal to improve the entrance to the Basin, Naylor Ct., and restripe the parking spots in front of where Aubuchon was so that it would look better, flow better, and one spot would be added. The proposal would be for 12 parking spots that are 8' 6" wide. Nemser mentioned that it might be better to have wider spots, such as 11 spots at 9 feet wide. Tim also had recommendations to tie in the plans to update Memorial Park so that it would flow better with the walking and traffic flow by moving the proposed stairs closer to the Main Street side.

El Huipil would take responsibility for restriping the parking spots, moving the meters, painting the sidewalk to Main Street, adding reinforced planters to act as barriers, and adding a speed bump (recommendation of the Police Chief)

Currently El Huipil has submitted an application to the ABCC to extend the liquor license to cover all of the outdoor area. It is not a new license, it is only redefining the premises boundaries. The town does have concerns about insurance coverage for the outdoor area, and some of those details still need to be worked out. Currently the requests by the Town make the insurance costs prohibitive.

After the presentation, the EDC discussed the proposal. Concerns were raised that we do not want Naylor Ct. to look like a through street, only access to parking. Calabria expressed concerns that it might not be a good idea to make the road wider and easier to get down. Nickelsberg presented an idea that the road could be made one way so that it would be easier to add a better pedestrian walkway. Krijger mentioned that we want to make sure that any plans to improve the Basin work well together and work with an overall plan. The general feeling was that this plan did match the overarching plan for the Basin.

The EDC agreed that proposals to improve the Basin should be encouraged as they are presented instead of waiting for an all-encompassing plan, which would delay any improvements indefinitely. Nickelsberg asked how the EDC can help. Hess stated that they were working on a BEEP application, possibly in the \$20,000.00 range. Other ideas that were brought up were adding wayfinding or signage during the improvements.

Presentation by Representative Hogan on upcoming Visit by Secretary Jay Ash.

Rep. Hogan first relayed that a \$50,000.00 earmark for the Maynard-Acton shuttle has been approved by the House and is now in the hands of the Senate. The Shuttle is mainly to provide transportation for seniors and disabled residents. The earmark would add another van to the route. When asked how the EDC can help, Rep. Hogan stated that a letter to the Senate could help the earmark get passed. Nemser volunteered to work on a letter. A question was asked as to how the shuttle currently works, and it was proposed to add a discussion about the shuttle to the next agenda.

Secretary Ash (Transportation) will be visiting Mill & Main on May 24th, from 9-11 am in Building 5. Representatives from the new brewery (Battleground Brewery) and Stratus will be there along with Saracen Properties. The goal is to highlight transportation services and showcase the Maynard downtown area. Refreshments will be provided, but an agenda has not yet been prepared. Krijger has volunteered to assist Rep. Hogan with preparing an Agenda for the visit. A discussion of ideas for the visit came up with the possibility of having PowerPoint presentations and tables for different local businesses or organizations.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 am.

Minutes submitted by Chris Worthy on 5/8/16