

Maynard Economic Development Committee (EDC) Meeting

Minutes of 14 November 2019 Meeting
Gianotis Room #201, Maynard Town Building, 8 am.

Meeting called to order at 8:04 am.

Members present: Jack MacKeen, Bill Nemser, Lynda Thayer, Dick Downey, Megan Zammuto, Rosalind Greenstein, Karen Freker, Jami Eycleshymer, Sarah Cressy. **Members absent:** William Doyle, Dave Krijger,

Guests: Armand Diarbekirian, Julie Love Gagen (MBA), Jerry Beck (ArtSpace), Brad Mathews (Cultural Council), Jeff Swanberg (Cultural Council), Napoleon Brito (GreenStar Herbals), Tom Morey (GreenStar Herbals), Cole Timbol, Nicole Vajda (ArtSpace)

MOTION: to approve the 24 October 2019 minutes. **VOTED** unanimously

Visit: GreenStar Herbals

- GreenStar Herbals was invited to meet with the EDC as part of a process to facilitate communication as they approach opening their business within the next few months.
- Principal owner Tom Morey gave a presentation of GreenStar and its history and philosophy
 - They will be located at 24 Main St
 - Rehab of the facility shall begin next month
 - They are on the CCC agenda for December
 - Build out to be completed in 3 months and ready for CCC inspection
 - Estimated opening June 2020
- Operations Manager Nathaniel Brito is a former police officer from Rhode Island.
- GreenStar has two other locations (Dracut & Chelsea)
 - GreenStar is not affiliated with any other organizations either local or national.
 - Average customer turnaround time is 6 minutes. Generally, longest is 20 minutes.
 - Surrounding communities haven't approved Cannabis shops so expects to draw people from those communities. There was discussion on how to leverage presence for the benefit of other local businesses.
 - GreenStar volunteered to meet with the MBA, Chamber, or other businesses to discuss how to leverage their activity to help increase activity for other business in town. Julie invited them to the February 2020 MBA meeting.
 - There will be signage on Main St. even though the building is to the rear.
 - There will be 10,000 sq. ft of unused space per the Planning Board conditions. There was discussion of how this space might be available for other opportunities, such as by artists currently on the waitlist at ArtSpace. Will need modifications by Planning Board if GreenStar is amenable.

BEEP Grant Application: ArtSpace – Acme Theater

- Jerry made a presentation of what they hope to accomplish with the grant as well as other longer-range plans for ArtSpace
- Sarah expressed concern about the condition of the sidewalk and its safety for pedestrians
- Lynda expressed concern about the snow load and what was being done to ameliorate it.
- It was suggested that Jerry be invited back to some future meeting to discuss his overall vision for ArtSpace.

MOTION: to recommend approval of the BEEP application to the BOS for 50% of the improvements to ACME Theater up to \$2,500. **VOTED** unanimously.

Working Together: Joint discussion with MBA, MCC, ArtSpace Maynard and the EDC.

- Each group gave a quick synopsis of their mission

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- Holidays are coming up and we should take this opportunity to create some synergy among the different groups.
 - **ACTION:** Each group to send their calendar of holiday events to Megan by EOB Friday 15 Nov.
 - **ACTION:** Megan to address this topic in her next newsletter.
 - **ACTION:** Dick to Format the calendar of events onto an 8.5x11 sheet and post in the kiosks.
- Discussion of setting up some light art
 - **ACTION:** Jerry and Lynda to coordinate to make this a possibility

Other Business:

- Reminder re 11 December Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel meeting in the library re Naylor Plaza (the Basin).
- The next meeting of EDC will be on 12 December due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

MOTION to adjourn at 9:35

VOTED

Notes:

EDC = Maynard Economic Development Committee	FinCom = Maynard Finance Committee	BOS = Board of Selectmen
CEO = Chief Executive Officer	CCC = Cannabis Control Commission	MBA = Maynard Business Alliance;
EOB = End of Business Day	MCC = Maynard Cultural Council	