

Meeting called to order at 8:05 pm.

Members present; Megan Zammuto, Sarah Cressy, Jack MacKeen, Dick Downey, Roz Greenstein, Bill Nemser, and Lynda Thayer. Members absent: Karen Freker and Jerry Beck

Others present; Rachel Bankey (MBA), Morris Partee (Emerald River Cannabis), Bill Cranshaw (Planning Board), and Zannah Noe (Ec. Dev. Project Coordinator).

Minutes of May 28th and June 4th unanimously approved.

Retail Marijuana Opportunity: Discussion with Emerald River

Morris Partee and his business partner, Matthew Moriarty, are in the process of launching a retail cannabis business in Egremont, MA. Egremont is scheduled to sign a host agreement on 6/23. They anticipate opening Q1 of 2021. According to Partee, Emerald River is a “social equity program member,” which gives them priority status with the Cannabis Commission.

They are starting to hunt for a second location in either Maynard or Maine. They chose Maynard because of its progressiveness, and the fact that many of the surrounding towns did not approve cannabis sales, which broadens their potential customer base. Because there are already two cannabis retailers slated for the CBD, they are interested in either Mill & Main or Powdermill Rd. They are looking for a minimum of 1800 sf, but their “sweet spot” is 2000 to 4000 sf. They are looking to lease, with an option to purchase. Partee’s contact info is moriss@em-river.com, 413.535.0621.

The Committee shared the information that due to bank financing stipulations; Mill & Main cannot host cannabis operations. However, consensus was that Powdermill was a great option. Comments below reflect discussion—

- Cressy thought that business-wise, Powdermill was a great location that could offer ample parking and easy access for Acton and Concord customers.
- MacKeen asked Partee how many retail shops could Maynard support? Partee replied three.
- Bankey asked if they would join the MBA. Partee responded yes.
- Downey suggested that they consider the former John Deere location.

Emerald River will follow up with Zammuto and Nemser.

Local Business Recovery—Extension of Premises

On 6/12, the BOS approved the following businesses for an extension of premises—The Pleasant Café, GiGi’s, and Serendipity.

On 6/16, the BOS approved the following—Smack Noodle (parklet), El Huipil (increased patio space), and Art Signals (art activities behind the building). Additionally, they also approved the Elks, Maynard Village Pizza, and Babicos for outside dining.

Zammuto is currently working with Azucar to create outside dining while remaining ADA compliant. Nemser commented that outdoor dining is here to stay. Greenstein asked about plans to publicize. Zammuto will write a press release.

Parking Update. Zammuto reported that all downtown street parking will have a two-hour limit, except for a handful of 15-minute spaces. Additionally, the Town intends on having additional meters in front of The Pleasant Café and across the street from The Flower Pot.

Grant Updates

-Zammuto reported that the Town submitted a joint CDBG grant for funds to directly help small business, and that the Town is using grant funds to hire a consultant for the Naylor Court dumpster program.

-MacKeen reported that on 6/22, DOT will open funds for the *Smart Streets and Spaces* program to help communities re-envision the utilization of public and private space for outside dining, etc.

-Nemser seeks a MEDC volunteer to serve on the \$35K MAPC Housing Production Plan Update.

Other

-ArtSpace and the Maynard Film Fest are applying for an "Our Town," NEA Grant.

-We are looking for two new MEDC members.

-Nemser congratulated Downey for hosting a successful Town Meeting.

-If #maynarddelivers has outside dining photos, Downey will put them up in the kiosks.

-MacKeen asked if anyone had knowledge of potential plans for recently sold Celia's Dance Hall (former K of C) and Maynard Trust buildings. No information is yet known.

-Thayer asked about the status of the Wayfinding signs.

-Thayer suggested that the MEDC might want to circle back to the Discover Maynard and branding projects.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 am.

Minutes submitted by Sarah Cressy on 6.18.20.