

Town of Needham
Norfolk County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Council of Economic Advisors Meeting of June 15, 2023 - DRAFT

Present - Adam Block, Dan Goodman, Heidi Frail, Bill Day, Bob Hentschel, Adam Meisner, Rick Putprush, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock

Absent - Jeremy Halpbern (excused). Matt Telcoff (excused)

Also Present - Amy Helsen (EDM) Abbey Judd (MAPC) Archana Menon (MAPC)

Call Meeting to Order

Roll Call

Presentation

A. Halsen introduced the MAPC members that are working on the Arts and Culture Plan with a planning grant obtained by A. Halsen. MAPC Planners that are working on the plan A. Judd and A. Menon gave a presentation and summary of Arts and Culture Plan that they are working on as well as timeline of the project and end goals of developing of the plan. CEA Members gave positive feedback on plan ideas and are excited for the process to complete and members who have not yet taken the survey distributed will be taking the survey. Chairperson A. Block talked about the long term plan of the planning board and making sure the new Arts and Culture plan will be incorporated

Adopt Minutes of April 13th 2023 as amended, Motion by D. Goodman, second B. Day to Approve - Ayes – Adam Block, Dan Goodman, Heidi Frail, Bill Day, Robert Hentschel, Adam Meisner, Rick Putprush, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock, Rick Putprush

Nays - None

Discussion held on site selection marketing -- proposals for vacant parcels and buildings. L. Elcock spoke of the items already done by the Charles River Chamber in this area and what is available on their website.

A. Halsen Report - Wingate Approval to expand and change to independent living units. Cook was approved for permanent outdoor dining, TWR Fitness opened, Needham Nutrition opened. Local transportation study is finishing up at end of June dealing with micro transit options.

H. Frail Select Board Report – Housing committee getting underway, need two additional applicants.

A. Block Planning Board Report – Multiyear projects, look at ways to improve process, possible zoning by-law changes, linden chambers higher density, higher level of affordable housing, look at ADU (Accessory dwelling units) changes, MBTA Communities focus, possible floor ratio changes. Parking bylaw changes.

D. Goodman Motion to Adjourn Second by B. Day

Ayes – Adam Block, Dan Goodman, Heidi Frail, Bill Day, Robert Hentschel, Adam Meisner, Rick Putprush, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock, Rick Putprush

Nays - None