

Town of Needham  
Council of Economic Advisors  
Meeting Minutes of October 18th, 2024

Adam Block: Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00am.

Roll Call Taken: Present - Adam Block, Bill Day, Rick Putprush, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock, Adam Meisner, , Bob Hentschel, Heidi Frail, Dan Goodman, Kate Urquat, Matt Talcoff

Absent: Jeremy Halpern, Bruan Patel

Also Present: J.P. Cacciaglia (EDM).

Adam Block Calls meeting to order at 8:00am and notifies the meeting is being conducted in a hybrid fashion.

Adam Block Moves to hold Election of Chair and Commission Chairperson and Vice Chair. Heidi Frail Elected Chair, Lise Elcock elected Vice Chair. Adam Block, Bill Day, Rick Putprush, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock, Adam Meisner, Bob Hentschel, Heidi Frail, Dan Goodman, Kate Urquat, Matt Talcoff vote to approve, Motion Passes

Adam Block hands meeting to Heidi Frail to run,

Heidi Frail presents the different MBTA Articles and letter of support for Town Meeting, explains the difference between the two plans in density and areas showing 1870 in the base compliance plan and 3296 in the neighborhood housing plan.

Rick Putprush mentioned the underlying zoning and how that will change with the lot sizes being as small and the assembly required to build a project in some of the areas,

Adam Block spoke that there are variations depending on the district and it is not a one size fits all, Chestnut Street is proposed at 18 units max per acer while Avery square is 44. This makes sure the community is protected from overbuilding in certain areas and was based in feed back the planning board received.

Bill Day asked why specific areas were or were not included, Heidi explained that some of the land to be included can be outside of the station area and is an existing area and some of the area is existing but can be used in compliance.

Lise Elcock made comments that we can't tweak these plans at this point and that it was a long process to get here, and that the neighborhood plan is a more all encompassing plan.

Motion to Recommend for the Neighborhood plan letter to be sent to Town Meeting.

Adam Block, Bill Day, Rick Putprush, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock, Adam Meisner, , Bob Hentschel, Heidi Frail, Dan Goodman, Kate Urquat, Matt Talcoff Motion Passes, All Vote yes.

Discussion head on the appointment of the Liaison to the Great Plain Needham Center Project. Lise Elcock volunteered for the Great Plain Committee. Heidi spoke on the Project is designed to accommodate all users on the project and that the area needs to be more accommodating for all users.

Adam Block made motion Rick Putprush Seconded; Bill Day, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock, Adam Meisner, Bob Hentschel, Heidi Frail, Dan Goodman, Kate Urquat. All Vote Yes

Nicotine free generation, JP Cacciaglia spoke on a request from the Needham Health Department request if the CEA would like to comment on the proposed Nicotine Free Health Generation that would raise the age for people who could buy cigarettes in the Town of Needham. Discussion was held and it was determined that the CEA will not be taking a stand as it is outside the preview of this.

Motion to adjourn Adam Block made motion to adjourn Dan Goodman second; Bill Day, Mike Willcox, Lise Elcock, Adam Meisner, Bob Hentschel, Heidi Frail, Rick Putprush, Kate Urquat. All Vote Yes Motion Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 am