

## Committee Members

Khalid Abdi, Chair  
Liam McDermott, Vice-Chair  
Richard Di Iulio, Member  
Mark Schultz, Member  
Cassandra McKenzie, Member



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# TOWN OF MEDWAY COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

### Minutes

Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.  
Medway Town Hall – Sanford Hall  
155 Village Street, Medway

**Members Present:** Khalid Abdi, Chair, Mark Schultz, Rich Di Iulio, Liam McDermott

**Members Absent:** Cassandra McKenzie

### **Also Present:**

Barbara J. Saint Andre, Director, Community and Economic Development

Chair Abdi opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

### **New Business**

#### **Business Resource Guide: update**

Ms. Saint Andre stated that the Business Resource Guide is now completed and live on the town website. She then showed the webpage location and navigated through some sample business resource entities that are included in the Resource Guide. Each organization has a listing including a link to its website, a short description, and contact information. Mr. Schultz asked if we could track the number of hits on the webpage.

#### **Strength in Numbers report**

The members briefly discussed the 495/MetroWest Strength in numbers report. Ms. Saint Andre noted that there should be a report specific to Medway issued by 495/MetroWest in a few months. Chair Abdi noted that difference in commercial leasing costs between MetroWest and the Boston/Cambridge area.

#### **Initiatives to assist local businesses**

The members discussed the idea that has been discussed previously about holding a brew pub event. Ms. Saint Andre noted that the Juneteenth celebration, Medway Pride, and Celebrate Medway Day, all held in the spring or early summer, were similar events but on a larger scale, and had numerous activities to draw residents to the events. Mr. McDermott suggested doing spotlights on local businesses by making short videos to post on Town social media. The Town Communications Director currently works with the Medway Business Council to produce some of these; it was suggested to reach out to her to see if the Committee could assist with additional spotlights on local businesses.

#### **New member recruitment**

The committee has only five members, it should have between seven and nine. Ms. Saint Andre will reach out to the Cultural Council and Medway Business Council to see if members of these Councils

would like to join the EDC. The vacancies will also be posted on the Select Board webpage. It was mentioned that local business people would be welcome on the Committee. Chair Abdi noted he has spoken to a number of residents but without success. He suggested that having a hot topic on the EDC agenda might result in more interest among residents. Persons who attend a town board or committee meeting because they are interested in an agenda item often end up serving on town boards. Everyone agreed to try to recruit new members.

## **Reports**

### **Master Plan update**

Ms. Saint Andre provided a brief update. The Master Plan is now in Phase 4, Implementation. A link to the draft of Phase 3 was forwarded to the Committee members for any last comments. The Master Plan Committee is meeting next Monday to start work on the Implementation Plan, then there will be a meeting in August with an opportunity for public comments, sort of a mini-community forum. The last MPC meeting will be in September, then it goes to the Planning and Economic Development Board for review and approval in October. It will be presented at fall Town Meeting, although Town Meeting does not need to approve it.

### **Planning and Economic Development Board (PEDB) – Rich Di Iulio**

Mr. Di Iulio updated the Committee. The PEDB approved a site plan for a new child care business at Medway Commons. It will be located at the site formerly occupied by Medway Yoga, and the parking lot in front of the building will be transformed into a play area. This will affect the traffic pattern, but there will still be two-way traffic behind the back of the building. Some of the adjacent businesses will be affected: Subway will be closing when its lease is over, Supreme Pizza will be moving to an adjacent store front, and Cost Cutters will be moving to Millis. Mr. Di Iulio also mentioned the three marijuana growing facilities that all having pending applications before the PEDB. He mentioned a three-unit townhouse recently approved on Main Street. He also stated that Master's Touch is looking to purchase the property on Main Street next to Hogan Tire, renovate the existing building and build a new storage building in the back. The members discussed some of the challenges, including whether two curb cuts would be allowed, parking, and the narrowness of the lot where the new building would be. The existing building would remain but would have some minor changes made.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 16, 2022**

On a motion made by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Schultz, the Economic Development Committee voted unanimously to approve the June 16, 2022 meeting minutes.

Next meeting – Scheduled for August 18, 2022

On a motion made by Mr. Di Iulio, seconded by Mr. McDermott, the Economic Development Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara J. Saint Andre, Director  
Community and Economic Development