



TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
January 14, 2021, 5:00pm via Zoom
MINUTES

Present: Libby Borden, Bill Brown, Sue Frisch, Larry Hannafin, Kate Johnson, Marie Lowe, Tom McGowan, Jon Riedeman, Michael Selleck
Absent: Jim Nelson
Guests: Matt Riiska, Dawn Whalen, Ruth Melville

“Public comment” and “budget” were added to the agenda

The minutes of the December 10, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

The list of EDC members and alternates was discussed.

Public Comment: Dawn Whalen, executive director of the Norfolk Foundation, said that NF has a goal to learn more about the organizations in town, the projects they are working on and how NF can work with them to achieve common goals. Also, NF has a partnership with Danosky & Associates, to provide resources and support for all non-profits. Sharon Danosky has agreed to offer a Zoom info session/Q&A on **Monday, February 1 @ 6:00pm**.

Kate Johnson reported on the Foundation for Norfolk Living. FNL is still waiting to hear about the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Bill said that he, Marie Lowe and Michael Selleck had an initial Branding meeting on Tuesday. Jon Riedeman will also be part of this group. The group will start with town aesthetics and hope to coordinate with the DOT group and Community Association going forward. The town web site needs attention.

Sue reported that the February WIN is progressing.

Fiber Optics is also moving forward. The committee will be meeting this evening.

Tom McGowan will be reporting monthly about the state of the Norfolk real estate market. He said that inventory is low and both the rental and buyers' markets are very strong. People want to live in the country. He also said that the video/Zoom about the train in Canaan is moving forward.

Marie said that the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower strip on Route 44 near the Transfer Station should be planted with bluebells, and maybe have a sign designating the area. As a first step for the branding of the town, she is going to concentrate on plantings under and around the Norfolk Welcome signs.

Matt said that the tentative City Meadow plan to reconfigure Robertson Plaza and build staircase/platforms from Station Place into City Meadow has been approved by Wetlands and P& Z.

Jon said as far as he knew, Infinity Hall will continue.

Bill and Libby