



**TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
January 12, 2023, 5:00pm via Zoom
MINUTES**

Present: Libby Borden, Sue Frisch, Larry Hannafin, Marie Lowe, Tom McGowan, Jon Riedeman, Brett Robbins, Michael Selleck, Robert Whipple
Absent: Kate Johnson,
Guest: Patricia Coffey, Ruth Melville

Michael Selleck called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

The minutes of the December 8, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

Michael suggested to the commission that the EDC expand the number of commissioners. It was suggested that instead there is a subgroup comprised of business owners in town who would liaison with the EDC regularly. Michael and Libby will pursue.

Jon reported that the Infinity deal is not going to happen. Good Works will continue to present shows. However, the status of the restaurant is unknown.

Jon said that Margarete is willing to organize Friday Nights on the Village Green this summer. Jon will send Michael and Libby her contact information.

Brett, reporting on fiber optics, said Frontier has come to the table with a proposal to wire a large section of the town which would include a cell component. Private money is probably needed to wire the remainder of the town as the town government does not seem interested in doing so. The EDC will approach the town and also cover the current situation in the town newsletter. Libby will connect Brett and Kathryn Boughton.

The traffic petition to slow traffic on Route 44 near Botelle School has 220 signatures. Larry is hoping for 300 and it was suggested to use social media to increase awareness.

WIN is coming along nicely with many participants. It will be held mostly in person. The dates are February 25-26, 2023.

Marie reported that the Community Association has been busy. The date of the town cleanup is April 22. The dog park will probably be open by the end of May. Other projects include cleaning up Buttermilk Falls (after consulting with the Conservation Commission which has been active clearing out invasives), lights on Memorial Green, and several projects for the memorials.

Robert said that the Yale School of Music projects of expanding the Shed, providing air conditioning to the Shed, and converting Eldridge Barn to dormitories, are moving forward ably overseen by Jim Nelson. The summer program will be ready next month, the benefit will be held on August 12th and there will be an open house over summer WIN.

Sue suggested that "Website" be included as a regular item on the EDC agenda and also suggested the EDC ask Susan Caughman to our February meeting to talk about the website. Sue said that the website was sponsoring a photo contest "What Does Norfolk Mean to You".

Details are on the website. She encouraged participation. The contest will run through March 31, 2023, and judges will award prizes May 1, 2023.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50.

Libby and Michael