



**TOWN OF NORFOLK
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
May 12, 2022, 5:00pm via Zoom
MINUTES**

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

Libby Borden called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

The minutes of the March 10, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

Libby asked to add an agenda item of Friday night expense for Norfolk Now; the added agenda item was unanimously approved.

Michael introduced Maria Horn to bring us up to speed on where the state is with broadband and fiber optics.

- OTB (Office of Telecommunication and Broadband) part of DEEP who manages the grant making authority.
- Kevin Pisacich is now the Director
- \$100MM is coming from the Federal infrastructure bill
- CT state has allocated from ARPA \$43.MM
- RAF to towns in early June
- Mapping initiatives by federal and state.

The EDC initiated a small fiber optics committee consisting of Michael, Jim and Libby. Libby agreed to contact Kim Maxwell to bring the EDC up to date with his information.

Sue asked about state support for tourism. Marie suggested she and Sue get together to discuss.

Jenna asked about school consolidation and emphasized the importance of a critical class size.

The EDC thanked Maria for her participation.

The EDC unanimously approved a \$436.40 expenditure for the WIN/EDC mailings.

The EDC unanimously approved an expenditure of up to \$300 for a Friday Nights on the Village Green insert in Norfolk Now.

On behalf of the ARPA subcommittee of the Town, the EDC sent out letters and questionnaires to 170 Norfolk businesses to make them aware that ARPA funds were available for those adversely affected by COVID.

David Rosenfeld and Tyler Grills, Infinity Hall owners, had a meeting with Matt about ways to improve attendance at Infinity Hall. Matt will pursue with members of the Norfolk community.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:58.

Libby Borden and Michael Selleck, Co-chairs EDC