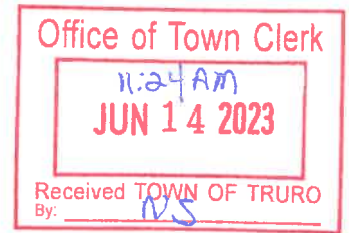


Economic Development Committee Meeting December 22, 2022-DRAFT



Members Present: Robert Panessiti, Chair, Nancy Medoff, Vice Chair, Kristen Roberts, Clerk, Chris LaMarco, Dan Silva
Others: Barbara Carboni, Town Planner, Carole Ridley, Principal Ridley and Associates, Sue Areson

The Chair asked Ms. Ridley to present the draft report. The Chair indicated the purpose of today's meeting is to finalize the content and format of the report and raise any additional questions/information that should be included in the draft.

Ms. Medoff stated that she wanted to be sure that when the committee puts the draft report out for public comment that it is complete. It was determined that the Committee would work to finalize the draft report and then once we were comfortable with the document to post it and schedule a public hearing for final comment.

Comments were made with regard to how much streamlining within town administration is possible and remain compliant with state regulations; regionalization should be emphasized and considered for both municipal and private organizations i.e. and outer cape Chamber vs. town specific; how to leverage Truro's value equation to attract tourism in the off season. There was emphasis on how and who would be responsible for executing Committee recommendations.

Dan Silva expressed that it would be helpful in his business to have a master list/directory of tradesmen. Chris Lemarco commented that many people look on social media for small local jobs on an ongoing basis. The Committee discussed recommendations around engaging the Chamber to provide this.

Barbara Carboni helped the Committee understand the role of the Town Marketing and Communications Director.

Discussion was had around the size of the current business zone and whether or not there should be a recommendation to expand it. It was determined that a recommendation concerning the lack of and expanding (and possibly creating) a Commercial Zone as part of a master town strategic plan would be appropriate.

Kristen Roberts questioned whether or not the Town could be more involved with events like Truro Treasures and perhaps establishing an agricultural event. Currently it was noted that these are citizen run events that benefit the town and could benefit from additional resources. Dann Silva commented that there are problems with existing agricultural regulations to get

farm grown produce to sale at a retail level. Regulation seems to be cumbersome and could be improved to encourage local business owners. Barbara Carboni suggested that a review of all bylaws to create a more streamlined process could be helpful.

The establishment of a cultural district was discussed and funds and support that may be available from the Commonwealth.

Nancy Medoff questioned how the report would be activated. Sue Areson responded that the SB would be responsible for moving this forward along with recommendations from the LCPC. This report would be helpful in their goals and objectives planning session, prioritizing short- and long-term goals.

Supporting community sustainability measures were discussed including childcare vouchers, cable infrastructure, mixed used zoning, working with the National Seashore to support existing business and transportation needs such as regional service, charging stations etc.

Kristen Roberts explained the challenges her business faces and the lack of financial relief in installing EV charging stations. The estimated cost is \$100,000 per station for business.

Dan Silva asked that we incorporate some recommendations concerning bikes and walkways in town.

The Committee review the implementation framework and what questions need to be answered to move the draft report forward. The Chair suggested that the EDC have a defined schedule as an ad hoc committee to revisit and review progress. Sue Areson agreed this would be a good practice. Carole Ridley will incorporate this into the report.

It is expected at the next meeting we should be able to finalize the draft and schedule a public hearing and move forward to finalize the report. A motion as made by Dan Silva to adjourn, a second by Chris Lamarco, 5-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.

