

Old Colony Planning Council
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting
July 21, 2020

Members Present

Maryellen Brett, Massasoit Community College, Co-Chair
John Murray, Career Works, Co-Chair
Rob May, City of Brockton
Mary Ellen DeFrias, MassDevelopment
Debra Petty, Town of Hanson
Mary Waldron, OCPC
Charles Kilmer, OCPC
Laurie Muncy, OCPC
Bruce Hughes, OCPC
Dottie Fulginiti, OCPC
Andrew Vidal, OCPC
Shawn Bailey, OCPC
Joanne Zygmunt, OCPC
Paul Chenard, OCPC

This meeting was a Zoom meeting.

1. Welcome/Roll Call

Maryellen Brett, Co-Chair

1A. Title IV Statement

John Murray, Co-Chair

2. Minutes of the June 8, 2020 meeting

Will be reviewed at our August 2020 meeting

3. Membership of CEDS and how we can be more inclusive. Department of Community Planning and Economic Development

Bruce Hughes, OCPC Economic Development/Community Planner presented. He said right now we have around 25 members. We have representatives from workforce development, town and city planners, Stoughton economic development planner, Whitman Town administrator, town and city redevelopment authority, Massasoit Community College, Greater Brockton Workforce Investment Board, Career Works, MassDevelopment, Brockton Area Transit, National Grid, a banker, an environmental planner, Metro South Chamber of Commerce,

Haitian Community Partnership. For today's meeting we reviewed our email contacts and invited many new folks from community groups that aren't represented in the current CEDS Committee membership. There are many ethnically diverse groups in our region not represented on our committee that would be great partners in the CEDS process. OCPC staff is actively working to encourage their participation. Our goal moving forward is to invite them to join us to make our CEDS process inclusive, effective and dynamic. Bruce spoke about the OCPC Reflections Opportunity Actions Task Force and their work. They want to have a Public Engagement Expansion Committee. Perhaps the CEDS Committee could have something similar. Discussion: Mary Waldron said we should explore other times for meetings. Need to explore how to bring more people to meetings. We could do a survey. Things to look at in the survey include asking what time of day works best, what format works best, how do we communicate with younger people. Some groups we might invite include Greater Brockton Young Professionals Group and Planners of Color. Rob May suggested inviting the Brockton Redevelopment Authority and the Center for Women and Enterprise. Maryellen Brett suggested having breakout groups based on interest after CEDS committee meetings. Dottie Fulginiti suggested group members send personal invitations to people we would want to have attend.

4. What is the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)? Laurie Muncy, Director of Community Planning and Economic Development, OCPC, presented a power point program on the CEDS.

5. Planning for Economic Resiliency: Dottie Fulginiti, OCPC Economic Recovery Planner. OCPC applied for and received a \$400,000 two year grant from US EDA to deal with economic resiliency efforts in connection to the current COVID 19 Pandemic. Dottie Fulginiti has been hired as OCPC Economic Recovery Planner to work on projects in this area. Dottie comes to OCPC from the Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance where she educated local officials and business leaders about development issues and implementation strategies. Dottie also serves as Chair of the Town of Easton Board of Selectmen.

6. Committee Member Updates

CEDS Committee Co-Chair John Murray of Career Works said the \$600 federal unemployment supplement is coming to an end this month. John asked committee members to refer folks in need to their website www.masshiregnwb.org. They are offering work force training.

7. Other Business

There was none.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

The Committee will meet monthly from now on. Next meeting will be in August, date and time to be determined.

Bruce Hughes

Old Colony Planning Council