

Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

6/22/2021 at 5:00 pm via remote meeting

Attendees: Marc Meyers, Peter Owen, Jennifer DeChant, Aaron Park, Ben Averill, Sean Ireland, Lindsey Goudreau (notetaker)

Membership

Jennifer shared that potential committee member Lucy of Pamela's World will be unable to join, but has become a block chair at Main Street Bath.

Committee will try to get on City Council meeting agenda for July to appeal for 3 new at large positions.

MicroTIFs

Following up on the Jim Tischler presentation: because of the lack of participants in the first presentation, discussed inviting Jim back for a shortened (20-minute presentation and 10-minutes Q&A.) Sean and Mandy will work on scheduling it for the September meeting.

Comp Plan Update

Ben shared that he has a summer intern working on GIS and mapping work, including components for the economic development portion of the comp plan update. 2020 census data will be available soon, which Ben will add. Decided to commit one of the committee's summer meetings to review and solidify the economic development chapter within the comp. Public feedback period will take place this fall, and the plan will go before Council before the end of the year.

Cruise Ships

Ben shared ships are coming to Bath once a week at least. We have the biggest ship we've had in a while – The Constitution – which holds just under 200 passengers. There are some logistical challenges; COVID-19 ridership restrictions, and greeters are not possible on the ship due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Main Street Bath has been sharing the cruise ship schedule with business owners, and the City is collecting hard data on the number of visitors through the trolley. Might be able to use the data to compel business owners to open for a few hours on Sundays.

Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Update

Community Development Committee's ADU presentation took place earlier this month. In July, they will present a memo asking City Council to start the process for Planning Board to start reviewing ADUs. A new State Statute defines the allowance of ADUs by right locally, but still allows municipalities to set their own restrictions. Sean attended the ADU presentation – said he felt it was a great way to strength our

community and neighborhoods and maintain our aging population. Emphasized the importance of presenting the concept in an approachable and accessible manner.

EcoDevo would like to add their support - Marc and Ben are working on the memo and will circulate to the EcoDevo committee when it's done.

Action Items

- **Marc** or **Ben** to resend the link to the MicroTIF presentation.
- **Ben** to resend link to comp plan document
- **Lindsey** to work on a "more shops" sign for the corner of Front and Centre Streets
- **Marc** or **Ben** to circulate the ADU memo when it is ready

Next Meeting

Tuesday, July 27, at 5:00pm