

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY

### COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 2, 2024 AT 6:30PM

Kendall or ZOOM

**Present:** Jean DeBellefeuille, Ian McConnell, Lee Parker (Zoom), John Scribner, Yvette Meunier

**Absent:** None

- I. Meeting called to order with requirements for a Quorum met.
- II. Village Partnership Initiative kickoff with Gorrill Palmer and subcontractors
  - CDAC welcomed a virtual kickoff presentation to the Village Partnership Initiative led by Don Ettinger of Gorrill Palmer, study lead for the project. Additional subcontractors present included Aceto Landscape Architects, North Star Planning, and James Tasse Consulting. Representatives from Maine DOT were also present.
  - The planning study is expected to last 8 months and conclude in January 2025. The draft purpose of the planning study for downtown Bowdoinham is to identify a range of implementable alternatives to improve the safety, connectivity, accessibility and placemaking for all modes of transportation (car, bike, pedestrian) while maintaining mobility both now and into the future.
  - See presentation documents on the town website for additional details and full project timeline.
  - CDAC members stressed the importance of fostering connectivity between the old and new waterfront parks, as well as to the Brooklyn neighborhood across the bridge over the Cathance. Members of the age-friendly committee stressed the importance of accessibility for all users including the need for places for pedestrians to sit and rest.
  - Plan for initial site visit for the full study team to be scheduled for later in July, coordinated by Yvette Meunier.
  - Plan for the first of two public meetings to happen in August or September, date TBD.
- III. Committee Nominations
  - Jean DeBellefeuille was nominated as Chair and unanimously approved by the other CDAC members present.
  - Ian McConnell was nominated as Secretary and unanimously approved by the other CDAC members present.
- IV. Meeting minutes from 6/4/24 were reviewed and accepted with corrections
- V. Agenda accepted as presented, with addition of update on EV charging grant
- VI. Old business
  - a. Mural update
    - Ian McConnell provided an update on the mural planned for the outside of the MAC pottery studio. He has not obtained a firm cost estimate yet. He is planning to meet with Jane Page-Conway to discuss which Lee is helping to facilitate. Other members suggested reaching out to Wild Oats or Fort Andross

for benchmarks of what their murals costed to implement. Further update to come at next meeting.

- b. Review Economic Development Comp Plan Section & Work matrix
  - Jean DeBellefeuille kindly extracted all of the workplan items assigned to CDAC from the recently approved 10 year Bowdoinham Comprehensive Plan.
  - Homework assignment for committee members is to review these items with any eye towards assessing what value can CDAC add in each target area as we plan future work activities.

VII. New business

- a. Discuss a joint meeting with Comprehensive Planning Committee on Tues. 8/13 at 6:30PM
  - CDAC members agreed to join Comp Plan meeting on 8/13 to discuss activities tabbed for CDAC to align overall priorities moving forward.
- b. CORA grant for signage
  - Yvette Meunier provided update that we are still awaiting feedback on this submitted grant application.
- c. Letter of support for DOT Bike Ped Grant for sidewalk Extension
  - CDAC members expressed approval for Yvette to submit letter supporting application for DOT Bike Ped Grant to fund sidewalk extension on Post Rd
- d. Letter of support for DOT Carbon Reduction Grant.
  - CDAC members expressed approval for Yvette to submit letter supporting application for installation of EV charger at the Maily Waterfront Park or new waterfront park with final details to be discussed further.

VIII. Next CDAC meeting is scheduled for September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm. There will be no August CDAC meeting given joint meeting with Comprehensive Planning Committee on 8/13.

IX. Meeting Adjourned