

NP&EDC

NANTUCKET PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



COMMISSIONERS: Nat Lowell (Chair), Fritz McClure (Vice Chair), Kristie Ferrantella, Jack Gardner, Wendy Hudson, David Iverson, Bert Johnson, Leslie B. Johnson, John Trudel, Maureen Phillips, and Judith Wegner

MINUTES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Remote Participation Zoom - 6:00 p.m.

Purpose: Regular Meeting :

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE : Andrew Vorce, Director of Planning; Eleanor W. Antonietti, Land Use Specialist

ATTENDING MEMBERS: Nat Lowell; Fritz McClure; Judith Wegner; David Iverson; John Trudel; Kristie Ferrantella; Maureen Phillips; Jack Gardner; Bert Johnson; Leslie Johnson; Wendy Hudson

OTHER: Derek Shooster (Regional Planning Coordinator |MassDOT | Office of Transportation Planning); Hillary Rayport

I. Call to Order:

6:04pm

II. Establishment of Quorum:

LOWELL announced that this Open Meeting of the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission is being conducted remotely via Zoom and YouTube, consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus."

III. Approval of Agenda:

The Motion was made by Bert Johnson and seconded that the NP&EDC voted to approve the agenda.

ROLL CALL VOTE :

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Fritz McClure | Aye | |
| 2. Judith Wegner | | Aye |
| 3. John Trudel | Aye | |
| 4. Dave Iverson | Aye | |
| 5. Maureen Phillips | Aye | |
| 6. Kristie Ferrantella | Aye | |
| 7. Bert Johnson | Aye | |
| 8. Jack Gardner | Aye | |
| 9. Wendy Hudson | Aye | |
| 10. Nat Lowell | Aye | |

Agenda adopted by **UNANIMOUS** consent.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

- April 26, 2021

Maureen Phillips and Jack Gardner abstain as they were not present on April 26, 2021

The **MOTION** was made by Kristie Ferrantella and seconded that the NP&EDC does hereby vote to approve the NP&EDC minutes for April 26, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE :

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Fritz McClure | Aye | |
| 2. Judith Wegner | | Aye |
| 3. John Trudel | Aye | |
| 4. Dave Iverson | Aye | |
| 5. Kristie Ferrantella | Aye | |
| 6. Bert Johnson | Aye | |
| 7. Wendy Hudson | Aye | |
| 8. Nat Lowell | Aye | |

Minutes adopted by **UNANIMOUS** consent.

V. Public Comments
NONE

VI. Action / Discussion Items:

A. 3C Programming Documents:

- 1. FFY 2022 UPWP** - authorize RELEASE for 21-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT

VORCE this is an annual exercise. UPWP reflects our current situation minus our Transportation Planner position so it is likely to be amended when we fill that position. There are ongoing negotiations for getting this position filled.

SHOOSTER The Unified Planning Work Program ("UPWP") pays for Staff work towards transportation planning. Page 20 of Packet (Page 9 of UPWP) is a simple budget table that explains what the different tasks are and how much funding NP&EDC Staff apportioned to each task. If during FFY 2022 (10/30/2021 - 9/30/2022), you hire a new Staff person and need to amend the Staff on this contract, there would be an amendment at a future date in time. This reflects current Staff situation. He will review during 21-day period.

The **MOTION** was made by Bert Johnson and seconded that the NP&EDC does hereby vote to authorize the release of the Draft 2022 UPWP for a 21-day public review period.

ROLL CALL VOTE :

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Fritz McClure | Aye | |
| 2. Judith Wegner | | Aye |
| 3. John Trudel | Aye | |
| 4. Dave Iverson | Aye | |
| 5. Maureen Phillips | Aye | |

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6. Kristie Ferrantella Aye
7. Bert Johnson Aye
8. Jack Gardner Aye
9. Wendy Hudson Aye
10. Nat Lowell Aye

Motion was adopted by **UNANIMOUS** consent.

2. FFY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program - close public review period and approval

VORCE thanks Derek for all of his help with this. We put in all of transit money so that has been entered during that period. We have vetted some actual projects and look forward to amending the TIP in future. No projects are ready right now. Next year we will have a more extensive discussion.

SHOOSTER There are a few pages of tables from MassDOT with our comments. Our Federal partners also made comments. So as long as endorsed TIP reflects those comments, we have no further comments. Checklist on Pages 41-42 of Packet is what we use for all 13 regions for the Commonwealth when reviewing these documents. TIP document starts on Page 43.

VORCE we did not receive any other comments during the comment period.

Hillary RAYPORT here to participate in public comment for the TIP. She was here this time last year and has similar comments this year. This report is a place where residents can see what the island's transportation priorities are. Last year's TIP did reflect a list of priorities for projects, but this year's TIP does not. The island spent time developing a Master Transportation Plan. Thinks it was prepared 3 years ago and would still be relevant. Thinks these public documents should be some indication of what the island needs and what the priorities are. Therefore, she requests that a priority list be put in even if we have not been successful in claiming the \$500,000 that we are eligible to claim for projects, at least the public can have a concept of what the priorities are and what we think we might be working on sometime soon. It's confusing to see the Bartlett Road Roundabout project in here when it was strongly opposed by the community. Asks what was done to make people aware that they could participate in this process of reviewing and commenting on the TIP. We want to encourage public participation.

VORCE We discussed this last time and the Bartlett Road roundabout project is to be removed.

SHOOSTER if you look at Section XI, Highway Program Projects, that reflects the only project programmed in the FY 2022-2026 which is funded by Safe Routes to School. The next 5 pages reflect each Federal Fiscal Year transit TIP program funds which amount to about \$600,000 per year for rural operating assistance for NRTA. The TIP is not a place where you list your long-term goals for the community. It is a document where you reflect what programs are funded and programmed for funding and advertisement based on what was determined from the Long Range plan ("LRTP") voted by NP&EDC in 2019. The regional goals are in the LRTP which informs the TIP and Staff tasks outlined in UPWP. Points out that anyone can participate in the process by attending monthly meetings where comments can be made throughout the year. It is a continuing process.

VORCE This is about state and federally funded projects. Locally funded projects involve the capital plan and the articles going to Town Meeting. What is programmed here is the transit materials.

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LOWELL voters have voted against multiple roundabouts by a small margin of votes recently. Thinks that the noticeable positive changes to the Milestone Rotary will be the benchmark for public opinion of these types of improvements. Roundabouts keep traffic moving slowly but more efficiently.

RAYPORT she and others come to meetings and comment. Public comment could be solicited in a more public way. Sending emails out to stakeholders, making listings in the paper to notify that public comment periods are open would help get more public comments. She doesn't understand why the intersection improvements at Francis St. which we are paying for through Town Meeting couldn't be programmed through the TIP.

Eleanor ANTONIETTI explains that the DRAFT TIP was uploaded to NP&EDC page and a notification about the public review period appears on home page.

LOWELL The partnership between the DPW and the Planning Department and the State will resume when we hire a new Transportation Planner.

VORCE It is not a question of an intersection that someone thinks will fit into the program. There are specific criteria that are discussed with the State well in advance. It is not a question of a locally funded project that we shift over.

SHOOSTER The projects that we fund have to be Complete Streets and take all users into account. This impacts design, timing, and project costs. Taking those items into account and available regional target funds and whether or not something is a State priority so that the State can fund the balance of those projects takes a dedicated staff person a lot of time and work to move the needle so not much has changed this past year.

LOWELL asks Derek to keep us posted if he knows when the Milestone Rotary project will be done.

SHOOSTER he is not aware of that. Suggests we contact the Highway District Office because they are the engineers working on island for MassDOT. They would have more information.

RAYPORT looks forward to getting Transportation Planner. Thinks we will have a difficult summer with traffic.

The **MOTION** was made by Bert Johnson and seconded that the NP&EDC does hereby vote to close the 21-day public review period, to approve the FFY 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program as recommended by Staff, and to authorize the Chair to sign the endorsement.

ROLL CALL VOTE :

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Fritz McClure | Aye | |
| 2. Judith Wegner | | Aye |
| 3. John Trudel | Aye | |
| 4. Dave Iverson | Aye | |
| 5. Maureen Phillips | Aye | |
| 6. Kristie Ferrantella | Aye | |
| 7. Bert Johnson | Aye | |
| 8. Jack Gardner | Aye | |
| 9. Wendy Hudson | Aye | |
| 10. Leslie Johnson | | Aye |
| 11. Nat Lowell | Aye | |

Motion was adopted by **UNANIMOUS** consent.

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VII. Other Committee Reports

HUDSON with Governor's announcement, thinks it's good for economic development to re-open. Wonders if this group or she could speak to Health Department. As of May 29th, all restrictions are lifted, except for public transportation and hospitals. Retailers Assn. is very supportive of this.

McCLURE at the last meeting of Coastal Resiliency, Arcadis provided us with a mid-year report of where we are today. It's a complete report and has a lot of useful information. It is on the CRAC website.

PHILLIPS asks if Town has reversed decisions regarding Fireworks and The Pops. FERRANTELLA Fireworks would not get reversed. Select Board voted to transfer those funds to the Chamber to support small businesses. Believes that the Boston Pops is back on this summer.

IVERSON encourages all to vote for affordable housing funding articles at Town Meeting. VORCE asks Nat if he wants us to vote on Wendy's proposal to communicate with Board of Health.

LOWELL maybe not our role.

HUDSON encourages everyone to let them know to support re-opening.

FERRANTELLA the point is to encourage the Board of Health not to impose local restrictions. Might be worth sending a letter that says we support reopening and to support small businesses.

The **MOTION** was made by Wendy Hudson and seconded that the NP&EDC does hereby vote to send a letter to the Board of Health communicating the NP&EDC's support for reopening to bolster the success of small businesses.

ROLL CALL VOTE :

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Fritz McClure | Aye | |
| 2. Judith Wegner | | Aye |
| 3. John Trudel | Aye | |
| 4. Dave Iverson | Aye | |
| 5. Maureen Phillips | Aye | |
| 6. Kristie Ferrantella | Aye | |
| 7. Bert Johnson | Aye | |
| 8. Jack Gardner | Aye | |
| 9. Wendy Hudson | Aye | |
| 10. Leslie Johnson | | Aye |
| 11. Nat Lowell | Aye | |

Motion was adopted by **UNANIMOUS** consent.

STAFF will draft something.

VIII. Other Business

SHOOSTER Governor announced that State of Emergency will be lifted June 15th which will impact Virtual Meetings. State will be figuring out more in terms of guidance for communities. Continue to monitor what Governor and legislature will be telling us.

VORCE We are moving the Tom Never's bike path project ahead. Asks Bert to reach out to his neighbors so we get a full response. We did not hear from about 17 of about 38 people.

B JOHNSON asks Andrew to email him a list of those people.

IX. Adjournment

John Trudel moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:54p.m.; Bert Johnson seconded the motion.

So voted by Roll Call Vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE :

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Fritz McClure | Aye | |
| 2. Judith Wegner | | Aye |
| 3. John Trudel | Aye | |
| 4. Dave Iverson | Aye | |
| 5. Kristie Ferrantella | Aye | |
| 6. Maureen Phillips | Aye | |
| 7. Wendy Hudson | Aye | |
| 8. Bert Johnson | Aye | |
| 9. Leslie Johnson | | Aye |
| 10. Jack Gardner | Aye | |
| 11. Nat Lowell | Aye | |

Meeting adjourned by **UNANIMOUS** consent.

Submitted by:

Eleanor W. Antonietti