

WAREHAM REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Thursday January 25, 2024
9 am, Room 27, Town Hall
54 Marion Road, Wareham, MA 02571



CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Butler at 9:03 AM

I. ROLL CALL

Members present:

Dan Butler, Chair

Judith Whiteside, member, Chair of Select Board

Derek Sullivan, member, Town Administrator

Ken Buckland, Clerk, Director of Planning

Absent

Ron Besse, member, Select Board

Also present:

Annie Hayes, resident

II. RESIDENT COMMENTS

Ms. Hayes addressed the Authority concerning the resiliency study, previously reviewed by this body.

Ms. Hayes provided the body with a poster advertising an Exhibition to be held January 28, 2024.

III. AUTHORITY BUSINESS

1. URBAN RENEWAL PLAN> Mr. Buckland provided a 'decision tree' regarding the possible investment in further documentation for the Urban Renewal Plan. Discussion ensued, with members noting the possible 'return on investment' (ROI) for expending essentially the entire 'income for year' to the WRA from different sources. Additional information will be presented at a future meeting. **NO VOTE** was taken.

2. WV AIR RIGHTS. Mr. Buckland explained that the biggest deterrent to development of Downtown (or anyplace) is the cost of land. Mr. Buckland explained that American Institute of Architects (AIA) has a program called Urban Design Assistance Team, (a competitive application process) which would spend three days looking at the Downtown area, creating graphics, engaging residents

and stakeholders, and presenting a plan to the WRA. The program could cost \$15,000 to pay for housing and meals (essentially expenses). Mr. Buckland has participated in three (3) such undertakings in other towns, and believes it to be a valuable program. **MOTION:** Mr. Sullivan moved to direct Mr. Buckland to apply for the program, seconded. **VOTE 4-0-0. (Unanimous)**

3. **ENGINEERING PROPOSEL FOR DUMPSTER ENCLOSURE.** Mr. Buckland presented a copy of the proposal from GAF Engineering, Inc. Members discussed the proposal. Mr. Buckland will ask GAF if stakeholder's input will be included in the study. **NO VOTE** was taken.
4. **COASTAL PATH FOCUS GROUP.LETTER:** Members discussed the proposed letter to invite people to participate in a focus group. Members hoped that the letter could also be printed in Wareham Week. **MOTION:** Ms. Whiteside moved to authorizes the Chair to send the letter, seconded. **VOTE 4-0-0. (Unanimous)**

IV. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Mr. Buckland said that on February 1 at 1 PM there will be an online kick-off meeting with Fuss & O'Neill, the consulting firm, on the Parker Mills Dam Removal project.

Mr. Buckland will send the link for people who want to attend. Mr. Butler asked for the link.

V. MEMBER COMMENTS/NEW INITIATIVES

None.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Buckland reported that he had received a letter from Innes Associates, indicating her document is approximately 99% complete. Members will be given a 'jump stick' with a copy of the almost 300-page document for review and comment. The document will be review at the next WRA meeting.

VII MINUTES None were reviewed

VIII ADJOURNMENT. MOTION: Ms. Whiteside moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded.

VOTE 4-0-0 (unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 10:01

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Wareham Redevelopment Authority
on 2/22/24

Attest 
Kenneth Buckland, Clerk

Date approved 2/22/24

Date signed 2/22/24

Documents used in the meeting.

Minutes of October 26, 2023.

Documents used or referred to in meeting

1. Advertisement: Designs for Living with Rising Seas
2. Urban Renewal Plan decision tree
3. Proposal from GAF Engineering , Inc
4. Draft letter invitation to participate in focus group.
5. Draft URP, Innes Associates