

# ***Decas Steering Committee Meeting Minutes***

Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, via Zoom Remote Meeting

## **I. Call to order**

Diane Kenney called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

## **II. Roll Call**

Members attending:

- a) Diane Kenney
- b) Jonathan Dallmeyer
- c) Jody Santagate
- d) Tracie Williams
- e) Charles Klueber
- f) Damon Solomon joined at 7:21PM

## **III. Discussion with parties interested in the Decas Project**

Bourne-Wareham Art Associated

Tim Foley from BWAA joined the meeting to describe his potential use of Decas. The BWAA is an art association open to all Southcoast residents that promotes the visual arts and hosts classes, seminars, and art shows. Currently the BWAA does art shows and meetings at the Free Library. 20% of art sales proceeds are given to the Library. No special equipment or supplies are needed, BWAA is interested in growing and providing larger and more frequent classes and shows. Tim will draft a letter of interest to record with the committee.

Wareham Land Trust

Elise from the Wareham Land Trust joined the meeting and described the potential use of Decas. The WLT is a preservation and conservation organization dedicated to maintaining Wareham's natural resources. WLT currently rents small space on Main Street that isn't conducive to the type of work they are doing. Their ideal space would be two smaller offices with a larger shared conference room but would be willing to use

what's available since their current space is insufficient. They are looking for a long-term affordable lease to grow. Elise is interested in seeing some of the unknowns answered like secured access to tenant spaces, security, and tenant layout. She will draft a letter of interest to record with the committee.

#### **IV. Committee Member Announcements, Comments and Updates**

Jon mentions that that commercial real estate agent he spoke to thinks that the \$16/sqft/year rate suggested makes sense for the area and amenities provided. Paul offers his services further if we need anything.

Diane introduced Dan Butler from Wareham Redevelopment Authority. Dan mentions his intention to attend our meetings to try to assist in working through this project after Diane's statements at Town Meeting. Dan supports the Community Center effort and after asking other committee members about their concerns and opinions, it was suggested to try to pursue RFIs for tenants to try to gather more responses. Ken Buckland is willing to draft RFIs since they are not in the same category as RFPs. Damon mentioned that the letters we already have are the same things as RFIs and doesn't want to start down another path if we already have the information. Dan will check with Ken to see if there is anything extra binding or official about RFIs versus our letters. Damon wants to see more committees involved so we can determine a way forward since the Town voted to move forward.

#### **V. Informal/working group updates**

Jon updated Charles on CDBG potentials for building repairs or enhancements.

#### **VI. Jones Payne Update**

Contract fully executed. Nadia is working on a matrix that provides building renovations as a recommended phase (short/medium/long term time frames). Will present to committee for review and inclusion in report.

#### **VII. Adjournment**

Jonathan motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:21PM. Charles seconded.

#### **Vote 6-0-0 to adjourn meeting**

Facilitator Name

Minutes submitted by:  Jonathan Dallmeyer, Clerk

Date submitted to Town Clerk: 5/12/22