

Minutes June 8 WRA

WAREHAM REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

MINUTES

Thursday June 6, 2023
9am, Room 27, Town Hall
54 Marion Road, Wareham, MA 02571



CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Butler at 9:05 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
Ron Besse, member, Select Board

Also present:

Linda Scharf
Alan Slavin (9:23)
Paul Girard (9:23)
Sherry Quirk (9:29)

II. RESIDENT COMMENTS

None

III. AUTHORITY BUSINESS

1. Status report on the EIN request. After a robust discussion regarding the benefits and drawbacks of applying for an EIN the Authority decided to put the request on hold, pending further discussion with Town Counsel, as well as the Town Treasurer/Collector.
2. Status report on the WRA internship program. Because the status of the request to get students from colleges or universities is unclear Mr. Buckland will research and report at a future meeting. There was robust discussion regarding the hourly pay as suggested at a prior meeting of the WRA.

3. Cranberry Highway Urban Renewal Plan Request for Proposals. Because the Town qualifies for the Community One Stop for Growth Program, offered by the Commonwealth, Mr. Buckland has 'pulled' the request for the Slum and Blight Study. The Program will help in identifying visioning as well as zoning requirements.
4. Car Show in Wareham. After a robust discussion regarding the offer by Mr. Slavin and Mr. Girard the decision was made not to attempt to put one on in 2023, but to possibly pursue dates for 2024. The Authority should make a decision by September to enable the individuals to 'pick' the most advantageous dates.
5. Music destination for Wareham. Mr. Besse discussed his ideas for creating a 'Music Destination' in the Town, under the possible umbrella of the WRA. This discussion was part of the discussions held regarding other items on the agenda, namely 1, 3, 4, and 7. **NO VOTE** was taken.
6. Fuss & O'Neil Report. The Authority members engaged in a robust discussion regarding how available the report was to the public, as regards to advertising as well as accessibility to the Webinar. The Authority members agreed that the public needs to be informed of initiatives.
7. Mr. Besse discussed his ideas for creating a new Wareham Business Association. There followed robust discussion. Mr. Besse was asked to submit a business plan to document and further explain his idea at a future WRA meeting.

IV. REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Mr. Buckland reported that he attended a conference which discussed the availability of Federal money available to states. Mr. Buckland discussed the FEMA grants which may help to ameliorate transportation projects, as well as being available to help with bridge and/or dam removal.

Mr. Buckland has processed paperwork to the Commonwealth, indicating the Town has reached 'Safe Harbor' status, and therefore, at least for the moment, does not have to allow 40 B projects.

V. MEMBER COMMENTS/NEW INITIATIVES

Mr. Besse's initiative were covered under agenda items.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

None to review.

VII. APPROVE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

1. Ms. Whiteside made the **MOTION** approve the minutes of April 13th, 2023, as well as May 25th, 2023, seconded by Mr. Besse.

VOTE: 4-0-1. Mr. Sullivan abstained

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Whiteside made the **MOTION** to adjourn, Mr. Besse seconded.

VOTE 5-0-0 Meeting was adjourned at **11:08**

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Wareham Redevelopment Authority on 6/22/2023

Attest


Kenneth Buckland, Clerk

Date approved 6/22/2023

Date signed 6/27/2023

Date submitted to Town Clerk _____

Documents used in the meeting:

1. Minutes of April 13 and May 25, 2023
2. Booklet for advertising for car show memorabilia.
3. Copy of Flyer for Car Show being put on for the OBA