

Town of Camden
Community & Economic Development Advisory Committee Agenda (CEDAC)

Monday, April 11, 2011, 5:30 PM
Washington St. Conference Room

Meeting Attendees and Notes

Attendees

- CEDAC and Liason: Peter Gross (Chair), Jim Fullilove, Martin Cates, Kipp Wright, Brian Hodges, Rick Bates John Arnold
- Public: Pete Brown, Tom Massey

Notes

1. Minutes of March 21 and 3/28 meetings were not distributed and therefore not approved.
2. Jim introduced Tom Massey, a local entrepreneur, who is in the process of setting up a couple of businesses. The CEDAC was interested in his perspectives in getting started in the Camden area and how CEDAC could assist.

Tom is from the mid-coast area and went college at Bentley. He lived for short periods in the Caribbean and elsewhere and decided to return to Camden and make his way as a young business person. When Tom returned he worked in carpentry to make a living and then discovered vineyard management. He has been slowly growing his vineyard management business while continuing to work as a carpenter. In addition Tom has started an tree surgery business in conjunction with his vineyard management work.

Vineyards in Maine have been helped by research in New York and Minnesota that developed a cold hardy grape that could yield a good wine.

The challenges Tom faces are finding time to work at his business while still completing the related tasks of marketing and bookkeeping. The kinds of support that Tom would find most helpful include research on grants and information age avenues to further his businesses and legal, marketing and insurance advice. Hurdles that Tom faces are licensing at the State level and signage at the Town level.

In general business incubation support would be most helpful.

3. CEDAC/REDAC website subcommittee. Brian and Kipp agreed to serve on the website subcommittee representing CEDAC
4. B.D'T Entertainment proposal for the Tannery site. The committee discussed the April 7 public hearing and the proposal for the Tannery site. While committee

members have questions about how the proposal will progress in the future, the attendees felt that the CEDAC should support the process and encourage the citizens of Camden should vote on May 10 to allow the process to proceed.

The following motion was made, seconded and voted favorably unanimously by the CEDAC members present: That the CEDAC is in favor of providing a chance for the B.D'T Entertainment proposal to proceed through the various upcoming hurdles and encourages the citizens to vote in favor of this chance on May 10.

The CEDAC asked Brian to develop an education article for the Herald Gazette.

5. Brian reported that grinding and paving will be from April 25 to approximately June 17, and will run from 6PM to 6AM Sunday through Thursday.
6. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at about 7:30 PM