

**Town of Camden**  
**Community & Economic Development Advisory Committee (CEDAC) Meeting**  
**Monday, July 12, 5:30 PM**

Meeting Notes

The meeting of the Community & Economic Development Advisory Committee (CEDAC) was called to order at 5:30 PM. The following were in attendance: Ellis Cohn, Roberta Smith, John Arnold, Don Abbott, Kipp Wright, Mike Tyler, Maura Kelly, Martin Cates, and Jim Fullilove.

The minutes from the June 28 meeting were approved and accepted unanimously.

Main Street Program

The Committee discussed the presentation by Rockland Main Street Program manager Lorraine Francis, focusing on whether it was an effective and needed program for Camden. Arguments against the program included the rigid structure the program required as well as continuing funding from the town and business owners to make it happen. Questions were raised about how the Camden Downtown Business Group felt about the program and whether they would support it---as well as other economic development issues affecting Camden. Jim volunteered to talk to a few business owners in Rockland to get a better sense of how the program worked for them at the "sidewalk" level, and then get a sense from the Camden Downtown Business Group of their interest/lack of interest in the Main Street Program.

Matthew Eddy

Roberta told the committee the town had contracted with Eaton Peabody Consulting to bring Eddy on board through the fall. He will provide transitional services as Camden prepares to hire a Development Director. Eddy will work with CEDAC to develop a strategic plan for short and long term economic development activities. Work will include development of a work plan for the summer and analysis of issues critical to economic development efforts. The work, which will be coordinated with Gateway 1 efforts, will result in a strategic plan for Camden economic development. Re: Gateway 1, Roberta reported that an RFP had been sent but not approved by MDOT yet.

Membership/Chair

Kipp repeated his desire to step down from the chair position due to time constraints. Discussion involved possible successors, including support for Peter Gross and Mike Tylerr in chair and vice chair positions. Kipp will follow up with Peter Gross regarding chair position. Changes/reappointments to CEDAC included these:

Ellis, Peter and Mike to full-time positions. Rick Bates will assume Martin's unexpired term. Kipp, John and Jim will remain full time.

Maura and Steve Crane to alternates. Don will remain as an alternate.

Next meeting

Thursday, July 22. Going forward, meetings to be held 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 5:30pm thru end of year.