



Town of Camden
Minutes of the Meeting of CEDAC & the
Downtown Economic Vitality Team
January 25, 2016
4:00pm, WCSR

PRESENT: Co-Chair John Arnold, Martin Cates, Ellis Cohn, Deb Dodge, Steve Matteo, Robin McIntosh, Amy Rollins, Meg Quijano, Jamie Weymouth, Karen Brace

ABSENT: Paul Cavalli,

MEETING PURPOSE:

To build and sustain a vital, multi-generational, year round community which will continue to retain and attract citizens and businesses, including young and creative individuals, to live and work in our town and our region. (CEDAC) To strengthen Camden's existing economic assets and businesses while looking to build and diversify the economic base of our community. (DEVT)

KEY THINGS DISCUSSED:

Structure of the teams and meetings (CEDAC and Downtown Economic Vitality Team)

- Intended focus: CEDAC: Camden's broad economic issues; DEVT: vitality of the downtown
- Concern that the CEDAC meeting is cut short when two 45-minute meetings are held together
- Should there be only one committee or two? Are we trying to fit a mold of the Main St Program?
- Meeting structure: should there be only one meeting, two meetings, or two at the same time?
- Members may want to be on one team or the other depending on interests
- Recruiting businesses as function of DEV Team

Conferences

- current issues (PopTech) and the value of our 3 conferences to the community
- creating a benchmark policy for reduced rates for events that meet the criteria
- recruiting new conferences

Tannery Report (Jamie Weymouth)

Middle School Discussion

GUEST

Michael Forcillo, Redzone Wireless – Camden's new public wifi system

DECISIONS MADE:

To continue the discussion of meeting and committee structure

Steve and Deb to talk with Opera House staff regarding current rate structure

To begin gathering data from conferences to formulate a benchmark policy to take to Select Board

NEXT MEETING:

(TBD - regular meeting date of 2/22 postponed)