



Discover the Jewel of the Maine Coast

## Downtown Network Board – meeting minutes June 11, 2014 – 11:30am

**PRESENT:** *Members:* Co-Chair Oscar Verest, Co-Chair Peter Gross, Bernice Berger, Deb Dodge, Dave Jackson, Meg Quijano, Selectman Don White, Town Manager Pat Finnigan, Code Enforcement Officer Stephen Wilson and Development Director Brian Hodges.

**ABSENT:** Erick Anderson, John Arnold, Pete Brown, Ellis Cohn, Staci Coomer, Flint Decker, Samantha Hill, Cindy Lampley, Jill Lang, Robin McIntosh, Barrie Pribyl, Amy Rollins, Lowrie Sargent, Jennifer Temple, and Kipp Wright.

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:30am (new meeting time).

### 2. Approval of Board Minutes

Peter Gross made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. The motion was seconded by Deb Dodge. It was unanimously approved.

### 3. Tactical Urbanism

Oscar opened the discussion on Tactical Urbanism by highlighting the first implementation of curb extensions at the intersection of Elm and Chestnut streets. Brian said that benches and greenery would be installed shortly. Deb Dodge suggested a bike rack be added to the extension near the Village Green, but several other Board members mentioned how there were already bike racks at Camden Nat'l and along French and Brawn.

The group then created a list of suggested locations for the Tactical Urbanism work group to consider when they meet next: the parking space adjacent to fire hydrant at Village Green, the parking space in front of entrance to alleyway (“Harbor Way”), and the crosswalk at the intersection of Elm/Main and Mechanic Streets. It was noted that public information will be necessary to steer foot traffic to Harbor Way.

In addition the group will be working on parking and egress from Knox Mill. They discussed signage and lighting at the Knox Mill lot. Pat noted that there are lights attached to the Mill buildings which currently aren't on, and said she'd check with Matt Orne to find out the status of the lights. Don White noted that the idea of incentives could be taken up individually by downtown merchants in order to encourage their employees to use the lot.

**4. Marketing: Experience Camden**

Brian said that the CDBG Marketing Committee had been working on collaborative advertising strategies. He showed the new CDBG website. The Town Manager commended CDBG for the quality of their site. Meg said that ideally the "Experience Camden" branding would be used by everyone to reinforce the message and get the word out. The Marketing Committee will be discussing logo use at their next meeting and developing a style sheet and guidelines so that elements are used consistently.

**5. Summer meeting schedule**

Summer meetings of the Downtown Network Board will be held on July 9 and August 13. Projects to work on include continuing with tactical urbanism, working on a style sheet for Experience Camden, and continuing to get public information out regarding the Knox Mill parking lot.

**6. Downtown Network Board Chair(s)**

Peter Gross said that he'd be stepping down from CEDAC so he would no longer be an official member of the Downtown Network Board. CEDAC would make a nomination for co-chair of the DNB, he said. Peter was thanked for his service on both the boards.

Oscar said that he's stepping down as chair of CDBG but that he was willing to remain co-chair of the DNB. Don White will now be liaison from the DNB to the Select Board.

**7. Public Comments/Questions**

Don congratulated the team involved with setting up the tactical urbanism sites in town and applauded the Downtown Network Board for their action and progress. He also noted that Camden Rotary is hosting free concerts on Harbor Park on July 4 and that the event will also feature an antique car parade.

Meg asked about the status of the Megunticook Dam. Pat said that there hadn't been enough TIF money to repair it but that there was additional money available in the Dam Reserve Fund. She said that Gartley & Dorskey is currently working on the design and engineering for the repairs, but that they would not be completed by this fall.

Dave Jackson noted that he would be serving as a guide for a bus group from the White Star Tour Bus Co. on June 26.

Brian said that a Road Scholar bus tour would arrive on the 16<sup>th</sup>. He is working with the Chamber to assist.

**8. Next Meeting**

Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at 11:30am.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Karen Brace  
Recording Secretary