

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

Monday, July 25, 2011, 5:30 PM
Washington St. Conference Room

Meeting Attendees and Notes

Attendees

- CEDAC and Liaison: Peter Gross (Chair), Brian Hodges, Martin Cates, Lowrie Sargent, Rick Bates, Kipp Wright, John Arnold
- Public: Chris Gates

Notes

1. Minutes of 7/11/11 meeting were approved.
2. Heart and Soul Planning Grant Application –Peter informed the attendees that the application has been submitted. Some applications will be chosen for site visit and interviews in the fall time frame. It may be early next year before we know which applications are chosen.

Chris briefed the Committee on his recent participation in an extended meeting with Orton Family Foundation staff who will be awarding the grants. The focus of this foundation work is improving the way communities communicate as they approach the decisions need to be made. Our application is a little unusual in that it has the goals of marketing and workforce housing plans. These grants usually go toward broader community interaction efforts.

3. Historic Preservation Ordinance – The Planning Board has passed the draft Historic Preservation Ordinance to the Select board and requested that a public hearing be held. The Committee members extensively discussed the extensive effort that the Planning Board members have made over the last two years to bring this ordinance forward. The value of the ordinance to the town is that it may better recognize the historical significance of the areas that are included in the historic preservation district and may allow for additional grant money to be obtained to help property owners to maintain and enhance the historic character of their property.

The major concerns of the Committee were that the quality of proposed Historic Preservation Commission decisions depended on who was selected for the board and that there was confusion in the Camden community on how the ordinance may be implemented. In considering all this the CEDAC decided this effort was worthwhile and the Planning Board has done a very good job in bringing this effort forward to this point, but more community discussion may be

needed to resolve some of the issues raised by this ordinance. Therefore the CEDAC is taking no action on this ordinance at this time.

4. Select Board letter to Boards and Committees – Brian handed out and discussed a suggested revision to the CEDAC Directive. The Committee discussed the revisions and offered a few suggestions. Brian will bring the revised Directive to the August 8 meeting for Committee consideration.

Attending Committee members provided Brian with the questionnaires they had filled out. Brian will assemble a joint response for consideration by the Committee at its August 8 meeting.

5. Miscellaneous reports: None
6. Public Comment or Questions on Agenda items: None
7. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at about 7:15 PM