

**Draft Minutes**  
**Barnstable County Economic Development Council**  
**Grants Subcommittee**  
**Cape Cod Commission**  
**3225 Main Street, Barnstable, MA**  
**October 16, 2019, 1:30 p.m.**

**Subcommittee members present:** Sheryl Walsh, Peter Karlson, Rob Brennan

**Subcommittee members absent:** Tammi Jacobsen (alternate), Duane Fotheringham (alternate)

**Cape Cod Commission staff present:** Kristy Senatori, Jen Clinton, Erin Perry, Siobhan Cavacco

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 1:44 pm

**Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

Upon motion to approve minutes of August 22, 2019 by Peter Karlson, seconded by Sheryl Walsh, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**License Plate Grant Program Proposals**

Subcommittee members reviewed and discussed applications for 15 Major Grant pre-proposals (requests for up to \$150,000) and 14 Micro Grant proposals (requests for up to \$10,000). The subcommittee voted to forward its recommendations of these proposals to the Barnstable County Economic Development Council for consideration.

**MICRO Grants**

**0039 -Hyannis Athletic Association** – Project title: Retail Store Renovation. Proposed renovation of the small “merchandise mart” to a state of the art retail store. The subcommittee members noted the application has limited regional impact and member consensus was not in support of the application.

**0040 -Cape Cod Young Professionals** – Project title: My Cape Cod Story: A Creative Initiative for Workforce Recruitment and Retention. Subcommittee members noted that this proposal is similar to some of the work the Cape Cod Chamber did several years ago. Members agreed that the goal of the project is a good one, but it’s only one component of what is likely needed to be a larger strategy and partnerships might enhance the project. They noted it was not clear how it would tie into job creation, job availability, or housing. After a second review, the member consensus was not in support of the application.

**0044 - Orleans Pond Coalition** – Project title: Demonstration of Nanobubble Oxygenation System. Proposed funding to learn if it is possible to introduce a new remediation technology that is effective and affordable for freshwater and marine lakes and ponds. The subcommittee members noted that this project exceeds the one year maximum project period for micro grants and thereby is not eligible for the grant.

**0050 - Town of Yarmouth** – Project title: Feasibility Study and Building Upgrades to Accommodate Additional Uses at the MacArthur School Building. Proposed feasibility study to examine additional uses and identify building upgrades and necessary equipment to purchase to accommodate these uses. The subcommittee members agreed that the proposal has many beneficial components, including

integration with the arts, expansion of educational uses, and builds upon partnerships, in addition to the Town providing a funding match. The member consensus is in support of the grant application.

**0051 - Cape Cod Culinary Incubator** – Project title: CC Culinary Classes. Proposed teaching cooking skills classes to adults who want to get into the food industry or to start a culinary business. The subcommittee members noted that this was a unique proposal and that there is value to having a culinary incubator on Cape Cod, but also noted that it would have a limited regional impact. Upon a second review of the application, it was noted they just received a USDA grant. The subcommittee member consensus was not in support of this grant application.

**0052 - Academy of Performing Arts** – Project title: Hill Housing. Proposed providing workforce housing by renovating two existing apartments. The subcommittee members noted that the project has already begun and that the applicant ran out of funds for completion. Members discussed that it is unclear how the applicant will sustain and guarantee affordability and how they will be maintained as workforce housing. The members agreed not to recommend this proposal for funding.

**0053 - West Barnstable Fire Department** – Project title: WB Community Building. Proposed installation of emergency electrical transfer switch on the West Barnstable Community Building. The subcommittee members discussed that this location is not used as a shelter and is only a warming center. Members commented it has limited regional impact and the project better is suited for a public safety grant. The member consensus was not in support of the grant application.

**0055 - Heritage Gardens & Museum** – No project title. Proposed funding to study how climate change is impacting the gardens and to assist with the development of a zero-green/garden waste program. The subcommittee members noted that this project exceeds the one year maximum project period for micro grants and is thereby not eligible for consideration.

**0062- Town of Sandwich** – Project title: Doing Business in Sandwich. Proposed funding to provide a printed guide to doing business in Sandwich. The subcommittee members noted the limited regional impact of the project. Members stated it is in every town's best interest to find funding (tax basis/internal funding) for this type of project. Members suggested the Town could use SIO portals to collect the data, could pair up with CCYP/Cape Cod Story, or use marketing dollars from State. Ms. Senatori suggested bringing this up at larger EDC meeting to discuss opportunities to apply for different funding.

**0063 – Cape Cod Commercial Fisherman's Alliance (1 of 2 submittals/Growing a Blue Economy)** – Project title: Growing the First Blue Economy. Proposed funding to put together a series of videos and podcasts that describe challenges faced by fisherman and how people can help. The subcommittee consensus was in support of this grant after initial discussion. Member comments included the grant deals with blue economy, it is achievable, and has a very specific breakdown. After the second review of the application, the subcommittee consensus was to suggest they combine the two micro grant applications with their major grant application.

**0064 – Cape Cod Commercial Fisherman's Alliance (2 of 2 submittals/ Seal Deterrent)** - Project title: Obtaining a "Seal" of Approval for Marine Mammal Deterrents for the Commercial Fishing and Charter Boat Industries. Proposed funding to develop non-lethal seal deterrent devices. The subcommittee could not reach a consensus on this application. Member comments included it deals with the blue economy but questioned how many operators it will impact. What is the regional impact vs. different companies? Members agreed it is a small scope with two operators, four nets but scientifically proven

will help. Questions remained if it goes over the timeline and if it is too limited in scope and members were not in support of this grant.

**0066 – FORWARD** – Project title: Housing Needs Assessment. Proposed funding for a task force and market analysis to evaluate the level of need for new affordable and supportive rental housing for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The subcommittee members were not able to reach a consensus after the initial discussion. Mr. Brennan is on the board and Mr. Karlson realized he is in conflict for the HAC projects so they did not participate in the discussion. Member comments included that there could be overlap with Cape Ability/HAC Major Grant Application. Mr. Brennan provided clarification that Cape Ability is providing the services and HAC is doing the contract management. After a second discussion, the committee reached a consensus to support the grant application for its strong regional impact.

**0067 – WCAI** – Project title: Climate Change Reporting. Proposed funding for a radio/online reporter covering the human impacts of climate change across the Cape Cod region. Subcommittee members commented on the regional impact and that it is a good communication vehicle to reach people on and off Cape (with WGBH connection) to tell a story. Also, they have three matching funding sources. The committee consensus was in support of the grant.

**0069 – Payomet Performing Arts Center** – Project title: Payomet Off-Season Programming 2019. Proposed funding to expand off-season programming. The subcommittee consensus was not in support of this application as it has limited regional impact.

This ended the Micro Grant portion. Ms. Senatori informed the subcommittee they have three yeses—10K each so met the 30K goal. She suggested they go through applications that did not have a consensus before moving on to the Major Grant review. Members were informed they can provide feedback to applicants only if it is requested specifically by the applicants.

The subcommittee did a second review of grant applications 0040, 0051, 0052, 0064, and 0066 and reached a consensus on all. The three applications the subcommittee will recommend to the full BCEDC are: 0050 – Town of Yarmouth, 0066 – FORWARD, and 0067 – WCAI.

## **MAJOR Grants**

**0045 – CARE** – Project title: CARE for Cape and Islands: Scaling Up to Maximize Impact. Proposed to work with CARE's fiscal sponsor, The Center for Responsible Travel, to generate additional support of CARE's work through six workshops on the Cape & Islands and strategic business planning. The committee consensus was to not support this grant application. Member comments included needing to clarify if perfecting an existing program and marketing to other regions and focus on tourism being an issue for them.

**0046 – Lewis Bay Research Center** – Project title: Cape Cod Watershed Institute. Proposed relocating a research facility to the Dennis-Yarmouth High School campus creating a K-16 educational platform in experiential learning. . The committee liked the blue aspect of the project but questioned the regional impact and sustainable stream of funding for future. The committee reached a consensus to review this application again at the end of the meeting. After a second review, members agreed to request a full proposal.

**0047 – Association to Preserve Cape Cod.** Project title: Association to Preserve Cape Cod and Housing Assistance Corporation Collaboration. Proposed supporting a two-year joint project with the Housing

Assistance Corporation to identify key places where development of affordable housing can be supported by the Association to Preserve Cape Cod and where key natural resources are projected from development. Mr. Karlson has a HAC conflict and did not vote on this application. Ms. Walsh and Mr. Brennan voted in support of requesting a full proposal.

**0048 – Entrepreneurship for all CC** - Project title: EforAll and CC Tech Council: Launch and Connect New Business. Proposed partner with Cape Cod Technology Council to provide training and technical assistance to under-resourced, targeted aspiring entrepreneurs and early stage business owners. Committee members commented on positive collaboration with CC Tech Council but need clarification on funding which the applicant can provide in a request for a full proposal.

**0049 – Hyannis Main Street** – Project title: Hyannis Downtown Visitor Center. Proposed partnership with BID and Hyannis Chamber and Town to improve the façade for a new visitor/welcome center in the middle of Main Street. Mr. Brennan informed the committee he is on the board and would not comment on the application. The committee consensus was to not support this grant application. Member comments included the proposal is unclear, has limited regional impact, and need clarification on funding.

**0054 – Cape Cod Art Association** – Project title: Educational Center Elevator. Proposed adding on three classroom spaces and elevator to make the building handicap accessible. The committee member comments included the application has limited regional impact and a very specific economic need. The consensus was not in support of the application.

**0056 – Outer Cape Health Services** – Project title: Lower Cape Medical Expansion. Proposed funding for essential medical and pharmaceutical supplies. The committee consensus was to not support the application. Member comments included limited regional impact and limited scope as only focusing on the outer Cape, talks about providing for the healthy workforce but public health not one of the named regional goals. Also, funds going just to supplies instead of developing programming.

**0057 – Town of Wellfleet** – Project title: Wellfleet’s Low Lying Infrastructure and Access to Economic Development Areas. Proposed to work with a consultant to better assess Wellfleet’s climate related vulnerabilities. Member consensus was to not support the application as there are other programs that are a better fit to address this critical need. The Cape Cod Commission will encourage and may help them apply for MVP action grant.

**0058 – Open Cape** – Project title: Connecting Downtown Hyannis. Proposed installing a transceiver hub in a Hyannis colocation center which will allow small businesses in the Mid Cape area to connect affordably to 100% fiber network and take advantage of a shared gigabit service. Members commented it will help small business in Hyannis area. Consensus to request the full proposal more clearly articulate cost savings and how it increases local business and if they have identified/asked businesses what they need.

**0059 - Cape Cod Community College** – Project title: Science & Engineering Building. Proposed contributing to building new science & engineering center to address the college’s need for modern educational facilities in order to provide educators and students with state-of-the-art resources needed to achieve contemporary educational standards in STEM related subjects. Subcommittee members commented that this is drop in the bucket from an impact standpoint and that it would be good to show the county the support for the college, even if they do not receive the full \$150K. Members agreed to request a full proposal.

**0060 – Arts Foundation of Cape Cod** – Project title: Cape Cod Public Art Investment Plan. Proposed planning and implementation of a series of public art projects around Barnstable County with the goal of creating and reinforcing regional pride and identity through art. Committee consensus was not in support of this application. Member comments included they support regional pride in art and art projects throughout the county but not the best fit for this grant.

**0061 – Yarmouth Chamber of Commerce** – Project title: Rt 6 Comfort Station. Proposed Rt 6 eastbound comfort station opened and managed from Memorial Day to Columbus Day. The committee consensus was to not support the application as the chamber already receives money from the license plate funds.

**0065 – Cape Cod Commercial Fisherman’s Alliance** – Project title: Blue Economy Workforce Development through Crew Training for Commercial Fishing. Proposed funds for multi-year implementation for an innovative and regional crew training program which will build capacity for the next generation of fishermen on Cape Cod by providing emerging maritime workings with the basic skills they need to succeed in the New England groundfish, lobster, scallop, skate, and dogfish fisheries. Committee consensus to request the alliance to include their micro grant applications with this major grant application.

**0068 – YMCA of Cape Cod** – Project title: Professional Development for a Qualified Early Ed Workforce. Proposed funding to maintain and increase the qualified early education workforce to meet the increasing demand of low-cost, high-quality childcare. Member consensus was to not support the application. Committee members agreed it is clearly a need but the proposal lacks detail and only provides for training their employees. They agreed it has limited regional impact and there are other workforce opportunities and grants.

**0070 – Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Cape Cod** – Project title: Accessory Dwelling Unit Building Development. As accessory dwelling unit bylaws are implemented across Cape Cod, the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Cape Cod seeks to partner with young professionals and seniors to develop market rate attainable housing by building accessory dwelling units. The committee consensus was to request a full proposal. Mr. Brennan is on the state board and did not participate in discussion of the application.

The recommendations that will go before the full board for approval at the next meeting scheduled for October 23, 2019 for full proposals are: 0046 – Lewis Bay Research Center, 0047 – Association to Preserve Cape Cod, 0048 – Entrepreneurship for All Cape Cod, 0058 – Open Cape, 0059 – Cape Cod Community College Educational Foundation, 20-0065 – Cape Cod Fishermen’s Alliance, and 0070 – Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Cape Cod.

Mr. Karlson & Ms. Walsh will not be able to attend. Subcommittee members were asked to clean up their review notes and submit them to Ms. Clinton.

#### **New Business**

No new business

#### **Public Comment**

No public comment

#### **Documents Used**

BCEDC License Plate Grants Applications: 14 Micro Grant Applications, 15 Major Grant Applications  
BCEDC License Plate Micro Grant Criteria Review Worksheet  
BCEDC License Plate Major Grant Criteria Review Worksheet

**Adjourn**

Upon a motion by Peter Karlson, seconded by Rob Brennan, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.