

**Community & Economic Development Committee**  
**January 20, 2021 Agenda**

**7:00 PM with a Zoom link**

- 1) **7:00 PM** Welcome to the new year and approve November and December meeting minutes
- 2) **7:05-7:10 PM** 5-minute Summary of Planning Board, Econ. Dev. from Kathy Tombarelli
- 3) **7:10-7:15 PM** Brief update on 2021 Explore Gray Winter banner - ice fishing and recommendations for the Community Development, and Economic Dev. & Planning website
- 4) **7:15-7:45 PM** Planning the agenda and flow of the 1/27/21 Pocket Park workshop
- 5) **7:45-7:50 PM** Updates on Birdhouse Project/Grant
- 6) **7:50-7:55 PM** Updates on Fedco Trees community purchase, January 15, 2021 deadline
- 7) **7:55-8:05 PM** Vote on winning design(s) from the Mural Design Contest. Place next steps on the February CEDC Agenda.
- 8) **8:05-8:25 PM** Look at CEDC's stated duties; Committee's current projects underway, Committee members' areas of interest and expertise for the new year to plan out the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 CEDC Budgets, e.g. Beautification.
  - Cultivate** community and cultural connections in Gray.
  - Revitalize and preserve** the charm of the Village.
  - Support** improvement, responsible expansion, and retention of established businesses in the Town of Gray.
  - Stimulate** the establishment of new businesses that will diversify the tax base and align with the goals of the Comprehensive Plan of the Town of Gray.
  - Promote** opportunities for local citizens who desire to open businesses or cottage industries.
- 9) **8:25-8:35 PM** CEDC Welcome Booklet and reaching out to businesses in Gray.
- 10) **8:35-8:45 PM** Vote on 2021 Committee Chair and Vice Chair
- 11) Meeting adjourned

## Community Economic Development Committee November 18, 2020 Minutes – online meeting

**Attendance:** Rachel Lyn Rumson, Lacy Antonson, John Zook, and Kathy Tombarelli, Bruce Foshay

Meeting minutes – October meeting minutes were approved.

### **Announcements & Updates:**

CEDDept. – Kathy shared that work on solar array going into RT 100 and Rt 26A have not progressed since last meeting. Also, the new 2020 Comp Plan did not fully address where it's appropriate to locate businesses including solar arrays on the land use map.

Town is installing 3 road calming signs within the Village: one on Shaker Road near Chipman Farm; one on Lewiston Road south of the Hamilton property; and one Yarmouth Road on Weeks Hill near the senior housing.

Town will be thanking Hort Resources for donating trees for the new playground being installed at Pennell Park.

Pocket Park updates: Alec Dodd had secured a grant to have several yards of compost delivered to 5 Yarmouth Road. New lot lines had been renegotiated with abutting property owner Walter H\_\_\_\_. Post holes were dug for a "new park" sign to be installed in the next few weeks. Flower pots from this summer in the Village center were moved to the pocket park and filled with evergreens, and dogwood branches.

Banner updates - Committee liked the improvements to the fall 2021 design that now includes a view of the Pennell Clock tower. Committee was also in favor of a winter 2020/21 banner with cardinals that did not include birdhouses, and Lacy would ask Full Court Press to design it.

Community Development & Planning Dept. website updates - Lacy asked for CEDC volunteers to meet before our next meeting to discuss website edits/suggestions. Rachel Lyn and Kathy offered to meet Lacy on 11/30/20.

Bird House Project - Rachel Lyn sent latest grant application to Town Council for approval on 12/15/20.

Fedco Tree - January 15, 2021 deadline for the Group Order for Gray residents and businesses. Rachel Lyn will update the flyer with some missing details/edits. Lacy can help promote on Gray Trail Network FB page; we'll ask the town to help promote; and submit article for both the Lake Region Weekly and The Notes.

Gateway Treatment for 1 Portland Road – John asked if DOT would allow Gray to paint the electrical box here in the Village center. He's seen painted boxes in other towns, e.g. Portland. Committee discussed idea of installing white picket fence in front of the cinder block wall. Kathy said Alec Dodd, Public Works, would need a drawing before considering improvements on that narrow public strip. Proposed fence should end before the cinder blockwall ends on southeast corner, considering that semi-trucks have brushed their tires up against the wall. Asphalt resurfacing of the small island in Town would need to be submitted ASAP to Public Works for 2021 Budget.

Mural(s) in Town – Lacy said the mural contest needed to have a dollar amount for the winning designs. Committee agreed to \$100 prizes, awarded to up to 4 winners. Contest will be promoted in/around town on social media and newsprint.

Helping local businesses- Discussed 'shopping local' and 'explore Gray'. Gray is not known as a retail destination like some other neighboring towns. GNG Development Corp's new shop local contest was fairly successful, and they may repeat the concept again in 2021.

The meeting was adjourned.

## Community Economic Development Committee December 15, 2020 Minutes – online meeting

**Attendance:** Rachel Lyn Rumson, Lacy Antonson, Eliza Watson, Schelene Shevchenko, and Kathy Tombarelli

Meeting minutes – Approving the November meeting minutes were tabled until the January meeting.

### **Announcements & Updates:**

Banner updates – Committee was impressed with latest graphic design revision to the Ice Fishing banners, which replaced the concept of cardinals. Ice Fishing is big in Gray and goes well with Explore Gray theme. Committee approved 16 banners, to be centrally located in groups of 4-5 in the Village if at all possible. Committee recommended using Google Earth to map out for the Gray Fire Rescue where the banners should go, for those that still need to be installed or moved from their current location.

Community Development & Planning Dept. website updates – Lacy, Kathy and Schelene have planned a Zoom for 12/18/20 to discuss initial recommendations.

Pocket Park – Rachel Lyn was planning on installing small fencing to identify where the trees will be planted next spring, which were dug out this fall. Committee discussed the need to hold an online workshop to engage the Community and gather their input. Schelene will do a Doodle Poll with Committee to see what date works for us. Workshop will last about 45-60 minutes, and Rachel Lyn will lead the discussion.

Bird House Project - Rachel Lyn and Schelene made the final edits to the grant application, and Schelene submitted the rolling grant application, which had been approved by the Town Council on 12/15/20. Bank review would take ~60-90 days. Side note - Lacy donated 14 of these birdhouses to be painted by the Committee and by the clients at the Morrison Center. These painted houses can help us promote the project to the Gray community this spring.

Fedco Tree - January 15, 2021 deadline for the Group Order for Gray residents and businesses. Rachel Lyn wrote up a press release for promotion in the e-News About Town, Town's FB page and Gray Trail Network. Dean Bennett of Gray Rec. Dept is budgeting for 2021 tree plantings for Pennell Park and the new playground.  
Gateway Treatment for 1 Portland Road –

Mural(s) in Town. – Shelene suggested that Fiddleheads may also want to participate and she'll share the flier with instructions to her staff contacts there.

New business: Lacy asked the Committee for input on the January agenda, including: 2021/2022 Budget and 2020/2021 expenditures to date; planning the Pocket Park workshop; voting on winning entry(s) for the Mural Design Contest; reviewing the Welcome Booklet edits needed; and selecting a new Chair and Vice Chair for this Committee.

The meeting was adjourned.