



TOWN OF THOMPSON

Planning & Development

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SPECIAL MEETING – BAR Grant

Brownfield Area-Wide Revitalization (BAR) Grant Sub- Committee
Friday, October 15, 2021 – 9:30 AM
Zoom

View recording: Topic: MSRAC/BAR Grant
Date: Oct 15, 2021 08:46 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Meeting Recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/N7uinQFgsuLlslNNRp2cm5XfSVnBOFyEncExMn5HriNtOMl1CQK-WLnemiPbxQxS.3XcCt4QuxHKMZ137>

Access Passcode: 5Gp16&4d

Or on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHdvmfnozh8k>

Attending: S. Lewis –Vice Chair, K. Beausoleil, B. Davis, J. Hall, N. O'Leary; W. Bugden – One Earth Environmental, T. Penn-Gesek – Director of Planning & Development, A. St. Onge – First Selectman

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER – 9:45 a.m.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. August 13, 2021 Regular Meeting – Davis/O'Leary
Correction: needs to be properly dated
 - b. September 10, 2021 Regular meeting – Hall/O'Leary
3. CORRESPONDENCE - Review if any received - none
4. CITIZEN COMMENTS - none
5. COMMITTEE BUSINESS
 - a. LOTCIP Route 12 sidewalk project
 - i. Construction – bidding, schedule, etc
T. Penn reads email correspondence from Jonas Luceus and Dan McBride at CT DOT. Jonas Luceus confirms that the process in his division is complete, and the project will move to the District Permit Office for the last approval. D. McBride has requested 2 hard copies of the plans from Freeman Co, plus some additional CADD files. Y. Lin from Freeman Co confirmed via email that those files would be forwarded as requested

ii. Inspection Consultant RFP

No updates until approval to bid construction is received. RFP for inspection will be issued simultaneously with the RFP /ITB for the construction contract

iii. End of BAR grant deadline

DECD is aware that the BAR grant can't be closed until CT DOT issues the final approval.

b. John Gumpert liason/River Mill

Much was addressed under the prior agenda items. A. St Onge adds that J. Gumpert's local property managers have been meeting with the Fire Marshal to improve the security & fire safety of the building. Good progress has been made in restricting access to potentially troublesome portions of the mill. Another meeting with the property manager & Fire Marshal will occur in another few weeks.

c. Other Committee Business - none

6. MEMBER COMMENTS – W. Bugden mentions that the MSRAC has shown remarkable consistency and high-level engagement over its existence. He suggests that their success can be used when seeking federal assistance (grant or technical assistance), since it is such an excellent exemplar. B. Davis asks if large federal grant programs are on the Town's radar. T. Penn replies that she is always looking for promising opportunities for grants or technical assistance. A frequent limitation is the lack of matching funds, although that is currently less of an obstacle due to the ARPA funding. B. Davis asks if there is a legal way to create a line item for grant matching funds. A. St Onge and K. Beausoleil both believe that it is permissible, but would need to go before the Board of Finance. T. Penn suggests that, in setting the annual EDC budget, allocating the recommended statutory maximum of 1/20th of 1% of the grand list to that commission might be a way to create space for that in the budget. Using that structure, unexpended funds at the end of each fiscal year would have to go back into the general fund. The Finance Director may be able to suggest an alternate structure that would allow funds to roll over from year to year.

7. ADJOURNMENT – 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyra Penn-Gesek, Director of Planning & Development