

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
Standing Committee on Economic Affairs
DRAFT Minutes
February 24, 2016

The Standing Committee on Economic Affairs met to review the 2017 proposed budgets of the Economic Development Council (included within the Cape Cod Commission budget) and the Arts Foundation on February 24, 2016, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Committee members present: Chairman Suzanne McAuliffe, Ned Hitchcock and Edward Lewis.
Absent: Marcia King and Edward McManus. Alternate member present: Linda Zuern.

3:30 PM: Economic Development Council

Cape Cod Commission Chief Economic Development Officer Leslie Richardson, Deputy Director Kristy Senatori and Fiscal Director Gail Coyne met with the committee and provided a handout and overview of the economic development program of the Cape Cod Commission. The handout will be attached to the minutes and available for viewing at the Clerk's Office.

The EDC is built into the Cape Cod Commission budget and not represented as a separate budget.

The handout provided a program overview as outlined in the Barnstable County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The last major update was 2008.

The Economic Development Administration has established Barnstable County as an Economic Development District and this is the first year that funding has been received as a result of receiving the designation.

Some important notes to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):

- Employment growth on Cape Cod has increased. However, wages are still lacking as compared to the US average and have not kept up with housing costs for people living on Cape Cod.
- CEDS goals are to provide low impact and compatible development, a balanced economy, regional income growth and infrastructure capacity.
- CEDS planning goal is to provide a forum for local and regional organizations to be actively involved in determining and executing economic development policies and projects.
- Technical assistance has been provided to project towns (RESET) which includes Yarmouth, Bourne, Sandwich, Orleans, Mashpee, with Falmouth and Barnstable projects as newly added.

\$290,000 is received from the Economic Development Council and \$70,000 is received from the Economic Development Administration. Funds are leveraged in order to receive other grants.

The Chair recommended that the full Assembly have the opportunity to hear the presentation made to this committee at some point in the future.

No motions were made regarding a recommendation to the full Assembly. This budget is a part of the Cape Cod Commission budget.

4:00 PM: Arts Foundation

Executive Director Julie Wake and Board Chair Bruce Bierhans met with the committee and provided a handout to the committee that outlined the vision, goals and initiatives of the Arts

Foundation. The handout will be attached to the minutes and available for viewing at the Clerk's Office.

Barnstable County support for the Arts Foundation was cut in FY16 from \$25,000 to \$5,000. The request before the committee is at the FY16 level of \$5,000.

There is year round programming for the arts on Cape Cod.

Three goals being focused upon in the upcoming fiscal year are:

- To make the Arts Foundation an investment point for businesses and patrons to create fellowships to fund artistic and cultural initiatives.
- To improve and increase the Cape's reputation for arts and culture by building a strong community network.
- To advocate at the local, state and national level for more awareness on the impact that the Cape's creative community has on the region and beyond.

The Arts Foundation has an organizational budget of about \$885,000. Of this amount approximately 40% represents administrative costs. Grants represent about \$500,000 dollars.

Motion made by Edward Lewis, and was seconded, to forward the proposed Arts Foundation budget request of \$5,000 to the Finance Committee. 3-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by:
Janice O'Connell, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates