

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
Standing Committee on Economic Affairs
DRAFT Minutes
February 25, 2015

The Standing Committee on Economic Affairs met to review the 2016 proposed budgets of the Arts Foundation and the Economic Development Council (included within the Cape Cod Commission budget) on February 25, 2015, beginning at 5:15 p.m.

Committee members present: Chairman Suzanne McAuliffe, Ned Hitchcock and Edward McManus.

5:15 PM: Arts Foundation

Interim Executive Director David Kaplan met with the committee and provided an overview of the programs, activities, and the major initiatives of the foundation for FY16. Two handouts were submitted to the committee, will be attached to the minutes and available for viewing at the Clerk's Office.

- Handout #1 - a copy of a letter to the Commissioners (12/30/14) from the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod requesting County Support in 2015/2016.
- Handout #2 - a document identifying various programs and funding status.

Chairman Suzanne McAuliffe raised some concerns regarding the legality of whether or not public funds can be used to support a private or non-profit organization. The County is seeking a legal opinion on this subject and may need to consider a change in how these requests are handled in the future.

The Arts Foundation is seeking \$35,000 in FY16 from the County and represents approximately 8.5% of the AFCC budget. The Commissioners proposed \$5,000 for FY16 which is a reduction of \$30,000.

Edward McManus would like to see a more detailed revenue projection in order to make a better informed decision regarding expense requests. The committee would find it helpful to review estimated versus actual revenues for FY14, FY15 to date, and FY16 projected in order to identify trends.

No recommendation was made and no vote was taken. The committee will meet on March 18, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss further, pending a legal opinion regarding funding, revenues, and consideration of outstanding budget issues that are before the County.

5:30 PM: Economic Development Council

Cape Cod Commission Chief Economic Development Officer Leslie Richardson and Finance Officer 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 single line item. It is interdisciplinary.

The handout provided a program overview as outlined in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) including planning, research, data dissemination and analysis, and technical assistance. Leslie Richardson noted that last year the Commission received approval from the US Economic Development Administration as an Economic Development District. This was a three to four year process to obtain.

There are 12 regional priority projects being worked on by the Commission and other community partners including a Cape Cod Capital Trust Fund for infrastructure financing.

Targeted technical assistance to towns currently includes Barnstable, Sandwich and Orleans with Mashpee and Falmouth as newly added. Past projects included Yarmouth, Bourne and Falmouth.

Motion made by Edward McManus, and seconded, to recommend the continued support of the Economic Development Council and its budget component to the Finance Committee. Motion carried 3-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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