

Janice O'Connell

1-25-17 → from Ed McManus to Speaker

To: Janice O'Connell
Subject: Econ Affairs Comm.

place on A. of D. agenda 2-1-17

All that being said, looking at the Economic Affairs Committee charge of reporting on economic development in Barnstable County, I am looking to hold budget hearings of the committee to review those areas of the budget that do and can have an impact on economic development activities. This would include, in addition to the the Cape Cod Economic Development Council and the Arts Foundation (although this maybe a mute point), the following areas:

- A discussion with the Cape Cod commission on their activities that are seen to spur or hamper economic development and what ways their resources can be directed to help
- the Economic importance of shellfish propagation to our commercial shell fishermen and recreational shell fishing as an important part of our tourist economy and determine the level at which the county should be participating
- The extent to which Agricultural extension activities are supporting our locally grown farm and aquaculture economies and if there is room for collaborative assistance
- The extent to which IT and Open Cape can collaborate to help foster our creative and knowledge economies as well as enable our towns to better serve economic activity in their towns
- Discuss with Registrar Meade the projections for real estate activity in the coming year and that impact on calculating the counties revenues
- discussion with facilities over the near term revenue potential of county real assets

These are the major items I feel that the Economic Affairs Committee should look into. These conversations will first be aimed at having the committee understand the impact that the county activity is having on the area of economic development and then whether the budget proposed is supporting the county deliver on economic development assistance to our cape citizens and businesses. This may be a lot to try and do before the budget needs to be passed.