

**BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES**  
**Standing Committee on Economic Affairs**  
**Minutes**  
**March 22, 2017**

The Standing Committee on Economic Affairs met to review the budget request of the Arts Foundation that was not submitted to the Assembly by the Commissioners, and to receive an update on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) from the Cape Cod Commission. The Committee met on March 22, 2017, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

Committee members present: Chairman Edward McManus, Edward Atwood, Edward Lewis, Susan Moran (remotely @ 1:45 p.m.), and John Ohman.

Chair Edward McManus opened the committee meeting.

**1:30 PM: Arts Foundation**

Present from the Arts Foundation: Julie Wake.

Background Information:

- Mission is to promote, celebrate and support arts and culture on Cape Cod.
- Arts Foundation raises money in order to grant funding to other organizations and schools.
- Reference materials were provided to the committee: Arts Foundation Summary and Programs.
- Strong marketing program in place.
- Foundation has over 300 members.
- Arts Foundation budget is \$750,000.
- In previous County budgets had granted \$25,000 but dropped down to \$5,000 in FY17.
- Barnstable County is identified by the Arts Foundation as the designated arts organization for Barnstable County. Funding (in any amount) could be the trigger that allows the Arts Foundation to be identified as the arts organization for the County and can be used to leverage other funds.
- The Commissioners communicated that the Arts Foundation would be considered for grant funding by the County once the fund was established.
- The Arts Foundation would like to remain as a budget item.
- Small amount of funding comes from Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Arts Foundation received \$10,000 for three years.
- Arts related tourism on Cape Cod is a springboard for economic development and Chambers of Commerce is supportive.
- Approximately 6,000 to 7,000 people consider themselves a part of the creative economy on Cape Cod with job growth projected in FY18. Average age is 35 to 54.

**Motion made by Edward Lewis, and was seconded, to add \$5,000 to the County Commissioners proposed FY18 budget to fund the Arts Foundation, to the Finance Committee. 5-0-0.**

**2:15 PM: Cape Cod Commission’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)**

Present from Cape Cod Commission’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Team: Deputy Director Kristy Senatori, Finance Officer Gail Coyne and Economic Development Officer Leslie Richardson (remotely).

Background Information:

- Reference materials were provided to the committee: CEDS program overview “From Planning to Prosperity”.
- Economy is strong on Cape Cod and unemployment is dropping.
- 36% of homes on Cape Cod are seasonal.
- 50% of all seasonal homes in Massachusetts are located on Cape Cod.
- 80% of the homes on Cape Cod are single family homes.
- Approximately 215,000 year-round residents.
- Building for maximum seasonal capacity creates a burden for residents to carry.
- Update of Regional Policy Plan is underway and looking to direct growth to areas of activity to create density and decrease infrastructure costs.
- The CCC economic development program is driven by the CEDS.
- Economic development on the Cape allows for the opportunity to create a prosperous environment for growth and prosperity without depleting resources: balance that is sustainable.
- Cape Cod Economic Development Council (CCEDC), through the license plate fund, with support of the County Commissioners, has provided support of the initial development strategy and on-going implementation of CEDS plan. Money can be leveraged for economic development on Cape Cod.
- The CCEDC is the strategy committee that oversees and establishes project priorities and works with other groups from across the Cape.
- Current zoning and lack of density allowed within current zoning, and a lack of infrastructure to allow for density, have affected the Cape’s ability to grow economically and create affordable housing.
- Recommendation was made to County Commissioners requesting funds from the license plate fund but it was removed and re-directed to other general grants. No decisions have been made by the Commissioners regarding where the grant funds would go. This cannot be viewed on the expense side of the budget but is reflected in revenues side.
- There is funding in the CCC budget for FY18 in various line item accounts for economic development. 4200,000 was requested but not granted by the County and the CCC can continue for another year but will eventually result in several staff cuts at the CCC in FY19.
- CCEDC is an advisory board to the Commissioners.

**Motion made by Edward Lewis, and was seconded, to reinstate the \$200,000 revenue from the license plate fund for the Cape Cod Commission and economic development as recommend by the Cape Cod Economic Development Council. 5-0-0.**

There are areas within the County budget that have an economic impact on Cape Cod and should to be discussed before the next budget cycle.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was unanimous.  
The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

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