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ORLEANS TOWN CLERK  
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## ORLEANS PLANNING BOARD

MARCH 22, 2022 - Minutes

A meeting of the Orleans Planning Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. remotely via Zoom from Town Hall. **Present: Chairman:** Chet Crabtree; **Vice-Chairman:** Debra Oakes; **Clerk:** Alice Thomason Van Oot. **Regular Members:** Charles Bechtold and Richard Hartmann. **Associate:** John Ostman. **Planning Department Staff:** George Meservey and **Secretary:** Karen Sharpless. **Absent: Associate:** Joy Cuming and **Select Board Liaison:** Mefford Runyon

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments at this point in the meeting.

### DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS (STREETSSENSE)

#### Speaker:

- Nur Asri (Streetsense)

Asri presented a PowerPoint presentation to Planning Board members of a draft Economic Development Plan in order to gain input from members before a public hearing is held on April 12, 2022 to gain public commentary and then a final version will be presented to the Select Board.

#### Economic Development Plan Summary:

1. Create an anchor destination at Village Center that services as a cultural hub.
2. Focus on preserving commercial density and building residential density at Village Center for “missing middle” income households and “down sizers”.
3. Develop small business technical assistance program to support entry of new, experiential-focused tenants.
4. Create a role for a full-time Town economic development and tourism director & marketing staff.
5. Create an economic and tourism development fund to support implementation of priority strategies.
6. Develop a brand and marketing plan to promote businesses, arts/culture, and tourism destinations/assets.
7. Enhance public spaces at Village Center to build critical mass of outdoor experiences/events.
8. Create safer pedestrian and bike connections that connect seaside assets to Village Center and Rail Trail.
9. Partner with higher education institutions to develop blue economy, hospitality, and skilled trades workforce training programs to build home-grown, skilled year-round labor.
10. Increase public access to Town Cove waterfront.
11. Enhance existing landings and commercial fishing infrastructure.

Other Long-Term Strategies:

1. Support enhancement/development of hotel/hospitality assets.
2. Enhance broadband access for Village Center & Town Cove residents and visitors.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners (Richard Hartmann)**

Hartmann reported that the Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners and Select Board are holding meetings to determine funding options.

**Community Preservation Committee (Chet Crabtree)**

Crabtree reported that Community Preservation Committee funding recommendations have been forwarded to the Select Board for inclusion on the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

**Governor Prence Planning Committee (Debra Oakes)**

Oakes reported that the Governor Prence Planning Committee held the first community engagement meeting with 75 people in attendance.

**Community Center Feasibility Task Force (Alice Thomason Van Oot)**

Van Oot reported that the Community Center Feasibility Task Force will hold a meeting on Thursday.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** On a motion by **Charles Bechtold**, seconded by **Alice Thomason Van Oot**, the Board voted to approve the Planning Board minutes for March 8, 2022.

**VOTE:** 5-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

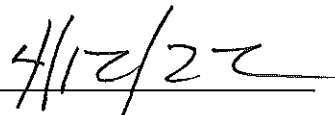
**MOTION:** On a motion by **Richard Hartmann**, seconded by **Debra Oakes**, the Board voted to adjourn the Planning Board meeting at **8:22** p.m.

**VOTE:** 5-0-0 The motion passed unanimously.

**SIGNED:**

  
(Alice Thomason Van Oot, Clerk)

**DATE:**



**LIST OF HANDOUTS:**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS (STREETSENSE)**

- Draft Economic Development Plan

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Planning Board minutes for March 8, 2022

