

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
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Commission Meeting – September 28, 2011

1/Call to Order: The Commission Meeting was called to order at the SRPEDD Office in Taunton by Chairman Randall Kunz at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of the following members:

Commissioners:

J. Callahan, Berkley	S. Leary, Berkley	D. Wender, Dartmouth	L. Miller, Dartmouth
D. Kulpa, Dighton	B. Roth, Fairhaven	A. Borges, Fairhaven	J. Henry, Marion
R. Kunz, Mattapoisett	S. McKinnon, Middleboro	J. Maclean, New Bedford	J. Marchitto, No. Attleboro
R. Driscoll, Raynham	S. Peterson, Rochester	C. Bragg, Seekonk	P. Dunn, Seekonk
G. Hovorka, Swansea	J. Whitin, Westport		
Absent:			
H. Young, Acushnet	G. Ayrassian, Attleboro	B. Dowling, Attleboro	J. Hunter, Carver
B. Maki, Carver	K. Pacheco, Fall River	J. Hartnett, Fall River	L. Muncy, Freetown
R. Garbitt, Lakeville	S. Zienkiewicz, Lakeville	M. Burgess, Mansfield	L. Flynn, Mansfield
R. Rogers, Mattapoisett	R. Geoffroy, Middleboro	R. Labelle, New Bedford	T. Welch, No. Attle
S. Widak, Plainville	J. Tito, Rehoboth	R. Moitozo, Rehoboth	J. Charbonneau, Roc.
J. Quin, Somerset	J. Ferreira, Somerset	S. Antinelli, Swansea	K. Shea, Taunton
A. Abreau, Taunton	J. Charbonneau, Wareham	S. Ouellette, Westport	P. Sullivan, N. B. A/L
J. Andrade, N.B. A/L	L. Rodriquez, N. B. A/L	M. Ferreira, Taunton	

Guests/Staff:

N. Bumbaugh, SRPEDD	S. Smith, SRPEDD	L. Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD
G. Guimond, SRPEDD	S. Dagesse, SRPEDD	S. Bushway, SRPEDD

Chairman called for a moment of silence in memory of Marty Newfield, Commissioner from Raynham, who passed away on September 5.

Commissioners and Guests introduced themselves.

2/Approval of Minutes – July 27, 2011: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as submitted and posted www.srpedd.org. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

3/Staff Presentation: SRPEDD's Role in Homeland Security: Suzanne Dagesse, Director of Homeland Security and Municipal Services was the evening's guest speaker. Suzanne presented a background and history of Homeland Security. She stated that the Regional Councils were formed in 2004. SRPEDD acts as the fiduciary agent for the Southeast Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council (SRAC). Suzanne stated that the Council is comprised roughly of 14 members. The Southeast Region consists of 96 cities and towns, 27 of those communities are in the SRPEDD region. The council meets monthly to hear reports and recommendations from subcommittees to help in the approval process of equipment, trainings & exercises funded for the southeast region. With the aid of power point Suzanne discussed types of projects funded by the Council. Following her presentation was a question and answer period.

4/a/ Chairman: Randall Kunz stated that as a member of the SRPEDD Commission and the Finance Committee, Marty Newfield will be sorely missed. He stated that Marty was a great leader on the Finance Committee and his guidance in financial matters will be greatly missed. Randall also announced the loss of Jean Fox as a Commissioner. Jean has resigned from her position to accept a new position as Manager of the South Coast Rail project. As a result of these losses we need to appoint a committee to make recommendations for these positions. Randall stated that he was appointing Jim Whitin, Westport; Bill Roth, Fairhaven; George Hovorka, Swansea; Debra Melino-Wender, Dartmouth; and Sue Peterson, Rochester to serve on this committee.

4/b/Executive Director: Steve Smith stated that he had mixed feelings regarding Jean. Although she will be greatly missed at SRPEDD, he stated that SRPEDD has built a positive state and local partnership with MassDOT and under Jean's guidance and strong connection to the community we anticipate this relationship will continue. He stated that although Marty did not attend very many Commission meetings, he was present at every Finance Committee meeting. He stated that Marty's diligent work as Treasurer and his dogged guidance on financial issues will be greatly missed.

Steve reported that he and Suzanne Dagesse had attended the third regionalization conference held at Holy Cross College on Thursday, September 1st. Discussion centered on a municipal improvements and regionalization competitive grant fund in the amount of \$4 million designed to fund regional projects such as the 911 project that Ross Perry is currently involved with. Steve stated that SRPEDD would be reaching out to the communities for discussion and recommendations for these regional services.

5/a/Regional Reviews: The following Regional Reviews were presented in the report. Following review a motion was made to amend a typing error under b.3 Project Cost from \$235,820,972 to read \$25,820,972. The report was approved as follows. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

B. INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS (IRB'S): Under provisions of Section 12(2) of Chapter 40D of the Mass. General Laws, the MIFA board shall consult with the appropriate local and regional planning agencies to ascertain the relationship of a proposed project to any existing state, local or regional comprehensive plan. SRPEDD has been notified that the following IRB's are under consideration. These are presented for your information.

- b.1 **Project Proponent**: Southcoast Hospitals Group, Inc., (together with any parent, subsidiary or other affiliate), New Bedford
Nature of Request: To assist the applicant in financing a non-profit project
Project Location: Wareham, Fall River, New Bedford, Fairhaven
Project: Proposed is the acquisition of a variety of capital equipment, including CT scanners, MRI, ultrasound equipment, patient beds, air handling units, surgical lights, exam lights, and other patient care and facilities equipment.
Project Cost: \$20,000,000
- b.2 **Project Proponent**: People, Inc., (together with any parent, or other affiliate), Fall River
Nature of Request: To assist the applicant in financing a non-profit project
Project Location: Fall River, Berkley, Raynham
Project: Proposed is the acquisition and renovation of a 35,523 sq. ft. commercial bldg, formerly known as the Citizen-Union Savings Bank
Project Cost: \$3,286,495
- b.3 **Project Proponent**: Trinity Taunton Four Limited Partnership (together with any parent, subsidiary or other affiliate), Boston
Nature of Request: To assist the applicant in financing an affordable housing project.
Project Location: Parcel 6A-2 Mason Street, Taunton, MA
Project: Proposed is the construction of a 72 unit multi-family rental housing facility. This facility will be part of a two phase project to replace the Fairfax Gardens public housing project in Taunton.
Project Cost: \$25,820,972

- C. ENVIRONMENTAL NOTIFICATION REVIEWS: For your information, the following Environmental Notification Forms have been received for review under the provisions of the Mass. Environmental Protection Act (MEPA). Staff, when appropriate makes comments, and the status of projects is monitored.
- c.1 PROJECT TITLE/LOCATION: The Village at Lincoln Park, Dartmouth
PROJECT PROPONENT: Midway Realty, LLC, New Bedford
DESCRIPTION: Notice of Project Change: Smart Growth Project – an approximate 20.2 acre portion of the residential component consisting of the 57 single family dwellings has been removed from the 40R project and will now be created under provisions of a Single Residence C District.
- c.2 PROJECT TITLE/LOCATION: Bay Road Heights, Norton
PROJECT PROPONENT: Bay Road Heights, LLC, Plainville
DESCRIPTION: The project involves the construction of 1,800 ft. of roadway with accompanying drainage system. The land will be subdivided into twelve individual lots, a larger condominium lot, and an Open Space parcel. The 2 existing homes will remain.

5/b/Contract/Grant Approvals: Be it resolved that the SRPEDD Commission authorizes the Chairman, Treasurer, Officers and Executive Director, as appropriate, to negotiate and execute the following contracts/employee agreements:

1. Amendment to the contract with the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to add \$10,000 for the contract period January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2011.
2. Contract with SRTA for \$120,000 for the contract period October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012.
3. Contract with GATRA for \$100,000 for the contract period October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012.

6.a/Personnel Committee: No Report

b/Finance Committee: Joe Callahan, Asst. Treasurer reported. The Finance Committee met on August 17, 2011 to approve the August warrant for expenses in the amount of \$84,154.50 and again on Sept. 14, 2011 to approve the September warrant for expenses in the amount of \$162,559.87. Joe reported that SRPEDD finances are in great shape thanks in part to the diligence and guidance of Marty Newfield. He stated that SRPEDD suffered a great loss in the death of Marty and he will be sorely missed. Following comments a motion was made and seconded to accept the report as presented and place on file. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

c/Regional Economic Strategy Committee: Randall presented the report as available in the handout. He stated that Don Sullivan had spoken to him following the meeting stating that he was very impressed with the speaker and the project and recommended him as speaker for the Commission. The guest speaker was Dan Gallagher, CEO of OpenCape Corporation. Randall stated that after reading information regarding the project he also was very impressed. He stated that the goal of the project is to construct a middle mile comprehensive communications network to support the economic, educational, public safety and governmental needs of the southeastern Mass region. He strongly recommended Mr. Gallagher as the guest speaker for the October meeting. The Commissioners agreed in unison.

d/Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO: Lisa Estrela-Pedro, Principal Transportation Planner at SRPEDD reported. She stated that the JTPG has not met since June, therefore she would report on the actions of the last MPO meeting. She stated that the MPO had approved three documents: the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), the Unified Work Program (UWP) and the 2012 Regional Transportation Plan. Lisa reviewed several of the highlights of the TIP. A light discussion followed.

e./SE Mass. Commuter Rail Task Force: Steve reported no date set as yet for the next meeting.

f/Southeast Homeland Security Advisory Council: No Report

g/Southeastern Massachusetts Council on Sustainability: Next meeting set for October 6 at the ATMC Building in Fall River at 1 p.m.

h/MARPA: No Report

8.a/Old Business/Municipal Assistance: Greg Guimond reviewed the report as presented in the handout. He pointed out that the smaller report was due to the fact that all of the completed MA requests for last year have been dropped from the report. Following review, a motion was made and seconded to accept as presented and place on file. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Also as a handout Greg reviewed a draft of a Zoning Bylaw – Article 21 – Science and Technology Overlay District prepared for the Town of Westport using MA time. He stated that as time permits he will present other examples of projects completed by the Comprehensive Dept. using Municipal Assistance time.

b/Draft 911 Feasibility Report and Implementation Plan: Steve Smith spoke briefly regarding the 911 Feasibility Report questioning “Do you like it? Not like it?” He stated that Mansfield, Dighton, Raynham, Taunton and Wareham were the only Towns that have yet to respond with their decision on whether or not they will participate in further 911 dispatch regionalization efforts. The City of Taunton is the only city left to respond. Steve encouraged these Commissioners to bring the word back to the Boards and Mayor. He stated that Ross will go to any community to speak with public officials who would like to talk with him. We need you to be our voice in your community. We need you to be our advocate for this plan.

9/New Business: No Report

10/ Adjourn/Next Meeting: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY The next meeting of the full Commission will be October 26, 2011 at the SRPEDD office.

Joan Marchitto, Secretary