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By Darlene Brady at 10:24 am, Jun 06, 2022

TOWN OF KENT

ARPA Needs Assessment Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 30, 2022 @ 4:30 pm

Members in attendance:

Connie Manes
Joe Agli
Patricia Oris
Glenn Sanchez
Ruth Epstein
Barbara Herbst
Craig Bibb

Guests and members of the public in attendance:

Lynn Worthington

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1. The meeting was called to order at 4:33 pm
 2. The agenda for the meeting was approved on a motion made by Barbara Herbst and seconded by Glenn Sanchez.
 3. The minutes from the March 23rd meeting were approved on a motion made by Barbara Herbst and seconded by Joe Agli
 4. At the start of the meeting, Lynn Worthington asked the committee about the preparation and presentation of its report and recommendations. Connie reported that the committee's intention is to present our report and recommendations to the Board of Selectman at their April meeting. The committee is working on a plan to release findings to the public at large.
 5. Barbara Herbst added a report to the ARPA folder on the results of her 1-on-1 interview with Elissa Potts, owner of the Fife and Drum.
 6. The KVFD has submitted a request for ARPA funds, which is included in the ARPA folder.
 7. Jocelyn Ayers, Kent Affordable Housing, has asked to be informed if/when applications for ARPA funds are available.
 8. The committee reiterated the 6 categories for recommended allocations of ARPA funds that were agreed upon in the March 23rd meeting:
 - a. Individuals who experienced loss of income during the pandemic
 - b. Businesses that experienced loss of income during the pandemic
 - c. Non-profit organizations
 - d. Municipal projects
 - e. Infrastructure investment
 - f. KVFD
 9. Discussion ensued about how much of the ARPA funds should be allocated to these 6 categories. No agreement was reached, but individual committee members made personal recommendations:

Connie Manes:

\$400,000 to individuals

\$150,000 to businesses

\$220,000 to non-profits (\$150K + \$70K)

\$51,857 to the KVFD

\$0 to municipal projects

\$0 for infrastructure investment

Barbara Herbst:

\$205,464 to individuals

\$205,464 to businesses

\$215,737 to non-profits (\$133,551 + \$82,186)

\$70,680 to KVFD

\$113,662 to municipal projects (\$102,732 + \$10,890)

\$0 to infrastructure investment

(+\$10,890 for frontline workers)

Patricia Oris:

\$150,000 to individuals

\$200,000 to businesses

\$270,000 to non-profits (\$250K + \$20K)

\$71,855 to KVFD

\$110,000 to municipal projects

\$0 to infrastructure investment

(+\$20,000 for frontline workers)

Glenn Sanchez:

\$246,000 to individuals

\$200,000 to businesses

\$275,000 to non-profits (\$200K + \$75K)

\$50,000 to municipal projects

\$50,000 to infrastructure investment

Ruth Epstein:

\$250,000 to individuals

\$200,000 to businesses

\$300,000 to non-profits

\$75,000 to KVFD

Joe Agli:

\$25,000 to individuals

\$96,000 to businesses

\$243,000 to non-profits (\$93K + \$150K)

\$166,000 to KVFD

\$34,000 to municipal projects

\$132,783 to infrastructure investment

Craig Bibb:

\$40,000 to individuals

\$40,000 to businesses

\$80,000 to non-profits

\$166,000 to KVFD

\$120,000 to municipal projects

\$290,000 to infrastructure investment

10. Patricia Oris commented that she believed the Committee's report should include specific recommendations for allocations to organizations or projects within the broader categories, i.e.: a senior center grant. Ruth Epstein agreed with this view. Committee members should bring their specific recommendations to next week's meeting.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm
12. The next meeting of the ARPA Needs Assessment Committee will be held on Wednesday, April 6th at 4:30 pm.

These are draft minutes. Corrections may be made by the Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.

ARPA Assessment Committee charge: *to conduct a needs assessment to make recommendations to the BoS on potential uses for the ARPA funds.*

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