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American Rescue Plan (ARP) Committee Meeting Minutes 3/23/2022

Meeting date:

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Minutes

Meeting of the Old Lyme American Rescue Plan (ARP) Committee

Meeting Date: March 23, 2022 @ 12:00

Location: Old Lyme Town Hall – Meeting Hall

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m. by the Chairman, Tom Gotowka.

Present: Mary Jo Nosal, Mary Seidner, Martha Shoemaker, Nicole Leger, Rick Stout, Phil Parcak, Cheryl Poirier, Jenn Datum, Ross Higgins and Dave Roberge

Excused: Dennis Powers

Absent: Ed Adanti and Ralph Wood

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Rick motioned to approve the March 16, 2022 minutes and Dave seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. **Guests: Attorney Michael P. Carey** (Suisman Shapiro) *Q & A regarding storm water mitigation, other topics(?)*

Rick stated, on behalf of the ARPC, that the Committee does not intend to remove a class of applicant; but they are only seeking clarification on the current ARPA guidelines due to the scale and cost of some particular projects.

Attorney Carey confirmed that the “Crib” is part of the Town storm water drainage system. Many of the beaches in Old Lyme are charter associations, which gives them some government power and are eligible for ARPA funds under the Government Services category.

Attorney Carey confirmed that grants must be spent by March 2026.

Nicole attended a Treasury Webinar and learned she has to create a project and accept the Standard Allowance by April 30, 2022.

Martha summarized the next steps for monetary approval by the Town. A Town Meeting approval will be required to accept the allocation of funds into the recommended categories. The BOS and the BOF must approve the disbursement of funds to applicant recipients. Attorney Carey confirmed this summarization.

George Krivda: *Review and revise OL contract with funding applicants/ recipients*

The George Krivda contract with the Town of Old Lyme did require review by Attorney Carey. Attorney Carey, Phil Parcak and Gorge Krivda broke away to finalize the contract.

Martha motioned to postpone the review of the Economic Recovery application and continue with New Business while the contract negotiations were conducted. Rick seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The Committee will finalize procedures for applications for assistance from households and individuals at a future meeting. This will not be part of Mr. Krivdas' charge, nor is it within his area of expertise. At present, we do not anticipate directly accepting requests from individuals or households, but rather making referrals to Social Services or LYSB, where applications will be handled in accordance with existing procedures. There was some discussion and general agreement that additional supplemental funding might be awarded, via the application process.

The committee members agreed that the revenue losses incurred/reported, must be from March 3, 2021 through April 1, 2022.

Community Outreach will continue to be worked on via email communications.

Mary Jo motioned to have the ARPC put forth the draft changes as discussed with Attorney Carey today. Dave seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Krivda distributed a proposed, but not yet firm, list of target dates:

- March 23 through March 31 - Application finalized
- April 1 – Internal paperwork completed and questionnaire placed on the website and community outreach completed
- April 1 through April 30 – Application Period, applicants eligibility determined by Town and sent electronically to Mr. Krivda as soon as cleared
- May 1 through May 15 – Internal Review Period/ Mr. Krivda to process and review with the team
- May 16 through May 31 – Town Boards (BOS, BOF, etc.) Review Period, contract readied
- July 1 – Target Date to Release Checks

1. New Business:

Mary Jo Nosal: *Begin Development of Community Initiative Application*

Mary Jo incorporated all the amendments she received from the committee members via email. Additional amendments were discussed today and included the addition of nondiscriminatory language, i.e. race or gender. All amendments will be incorporated and the final draft application will be sent to Attorney Carey for review. Rick Stout will be the liaison contact listed on the application.

ARPC: *Request from BOF Chair for Regular Updates.* This item was tabled.

1. Old Business:

ARPC: *Review Small Business Grant Limit of \$10,000*

There was a discussion about a possible change to the cap amount, but Martha Motioned to accept the “up to \$10,000” cap per applicant in the Economic Development/Revenue Loss category. Rick seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Martha Shoemaker: *Post Mortem on March 21 Town Meeting*

Committee members thanked Martha for doing a great job presenting at the Town Meeting.

Is there any follow-up required from issues raised at the meeting? None

1. **Public Comment:** None
2. **Adjournment:** a motion to adjourn was made by Phil and seconded by Dave. There were no abstentions or nays. The meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne McAuliffe, Clerk

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