



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK

Office of the Board of Selectmen

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AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES HYBRID MEETING

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Old Saybrook Town Hall – First-floor Conference Room

To access a recording of this meeting: <https://youtu.be/JEyBsZCi1ts>

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:09 p.m. by the chair, Mr. Carlson.

Members Present:, Bruce Carlson (Chair), Susan Esty (Vice-chair), Judy Sullivan, Kristen Roberts and Brad Thorpe.

Members Absent: Maureen Zavatone (Secretary), Elizabeth McEvily, Kacie Hand.

Others Present: Carl Fortuna, Matthew Pugliese Jennifer Donahue, Mark Caldarella.

II. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Review of the minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Committee members had a preliminary discussion of applications submitted so far and their feelings about how the requests fit into the funding guidelines noting that there should be some harm demonstrated due to the pandemic and the request should mitigate that harm.

The Maple Court water main is one that has been discussed with the town in the past. Some commissioners worried that it would open up public water discussions in more areas of town. Mr. Fortuna noted that neighborhood is somewhat unique in its situation and that partial funding would probably need to come from the homeowners. Since it would ultimately be a town project, the proper recipient of the funds would need to be the town and not the neighborhood.

The American Legion application is unclear as to the net loss related to the pandemic.

The Fire Department radio request needs further discussion with all players in the first responder network to determine actual need. Should be characterized as for provision of government services.

First Church looks ok as is for now – shows Covid relationship to request.

Main Street crosswalks makes sense for the use of funds with infrastructure; is good for downtown business; has positive effects for the community, economics and safety; is responsive to complaints from parents; and calms traffic.

Riverside Cemetery request does not show how it is related to a Covid response. Mr. Fortuna noted that in the past he has requested financial information from the association when it has asked for financial assistance from the town and he has not gotten it.

The senior pavilion speaks to Covid isolation issues; there may be a minority who do not want it but it has the support of the senior housing association board of directors.

Heather McNeil and Sue Consoli should be invited to the next meeting to go over the Social Services application more fully in person. Mr. Thorpe expressed concern about repetition of services especially related to the provision of food.

Variety Video submitted a number of applications some of which did not include the business name on them. The request for help with the SBA loan may be eligible but the other requests did not appear Covid related.

VI. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

Committee members agreed that the Dropbox with applications is working well. Mr. Carlson will set up a matrix to use at the next meeting for evaluating applications. It was agreed that applications should tie into the pandemic and show how problems would be mitigated with ARPA funding.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thorpe made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 6:04 p.m. Ms. Esty seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Hall first-floor conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Donahue