

**ARPA Committee Meeting  
Tuesday June 20, 2023, 5:15 pm  
Cavendish Town Meeting Room**

**Present:** Rick Chambers (Town Manager), George Timko (Chairman), Jen Leak, Peter LaBelle, Betty McEnaney, Sara Stowell, Tim Calabrese, Wendy Regier.

**Absent:** Julia Gignoux, Stephen Plunkard

**1, Call Meeting to Order**

George Timko, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

**2, Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**

***Peter LaBelle moved/Jen Leak seconded a motion to approve the minutes as written.*** George said that item 4 should read “leaving membership at 7” rather than “leaving membership at 5”. ***Peter amended his motion to approve the minutes as corrected. George Timko seconded. All voted in favor.***

**3, Welcome New Town Manager/Appoint Clerk of the Board**

George welcomed Rick Chambers, new Town Manager. He said that he would like to formally appoint Rick as Clerk of the Committee.

***George Timko moved/Peter LaBelle seconded a motion to appoint Rick Chambers as Clerk of the ARPA Committee. All voted in favor.***

**4, Set New Meeting Time**

George said that the Committee had discussed moving the regular meeting time from 5:15 to 6:00 pm.

***Peter Labelle moved/Jen Leak seconded a motion to move the regular meeting time to 6 pm. All voted in favor.***

**5, Hear Tim Calabrese on Future Application**

Tim was present. Tim said that he is working with Ludlow Area Sports Trails (LAST) which has a proposal to build multi-use trails on Fletcher Farm property for biking, hiking, x-country skiing and snowshoeing. He said that they will use mostly volunteer labor but are looking for donations for signs. Tim discussed the proposed trail system with the Committee.

Wendy suggested filling out an application, which the Committee is finalizing tonight, to request funds. Jen said that she will email Tim an application when it is ready.

Tim said that as a Planning Commission member, he would request ARPA funds for a Scoping Study for more sidewalks in the villages. He said that once the scoping study was completed then an application for federal funds could be submitted to cover construction costs.

Wendy asked if the Town will also need to fill out applications for potential projects. George said yes it will.

**6, Final Review of ARPA Application Form and Adoption Vote**

Wendy passed out copies of the proposed application.

Sara asked for some background as to why the Committee was asking for applications rather than setting forward a vision and allocating funds. Betty explained that the Committee wanted to get community involvement and be open to ideas that no one might have thought about yet.

The Committee reviewed the draft application. ***Betty McEnaney moved/Peter Labelle seconded a motion to correct the spelling on question #4 and reorder the sentences on question #5 and approve the application as corrected. All voted in favor.***

Wendy said that she will make the changes and email it to the Committee. Wendy asked if there should be a deadline for applications. The Committee discussed the application timeline.

***George Timko moved/Peter Labelle seconded a motion to set the application deadline at September 30, 2023. All voted in favor.*** Wendy said that she will add the to the application.

**7, Next Steps/How to Inform the Public**

Peter said that he could write a press release for the area newspapers by the end of this week. Jen said that she will send the application to Cavendish Connects, put it on the Town website and have paper copies available in the Town Office. Sara said that she will work with Jen to publicize on other local social media sites.

**8, Other Business**

The Committee set the next meeting date for Tuesday July 18, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

**8, Adjourn**

***Peter Labelle moved/Wendy Regier seconded a motion to adjourn at 6:12 pm. All voted in favor.***

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_