

5/19 May Town of Otis Revitalization Committee Hybrid Minutes*
10:00 AM, Conference Room, Otis Town Hall

Members Present: Stacey Schultz, Glenn Stienberg, Jackie Gentile, Hal Kobrin, Celeste Watman, Cynthia Fletcher (contributing volunteer) and Susan Ebitz

Members Absent: Susan Brofman, Tim Wighton

Guests: John Fletcher, Terry Gould, Melissa Kliman, Les Neidick,

1. Meeting called to order by Stacey at 10:00
2. Minutes from 4/23, 4/28, were tabled until the next meeting
3. The selectboard approved the grant proposal to apply for the MASS Development Grant – Terry reminded the group that it is an advisory group

4. Subcommittee Reports

Working Group #1 –

- Needs Assessment Committee (Tim, Stacey & Sue E.) met several times to develop a survey that could be distributed electronically and on paper copies. The survey consists of a demographic section, questions for residents, businesses, vacationers, and visitors. The survey will “branch” off into sections for some with basic questions for all. Glenn and Celeste have generously offered to fund the cost of making the survey available digitally. Next steps include sharing the survey with limited audiences for specific feedback. Surveys will be distributed asap and be available until Labor Day.

Working Group #2 – Promotion & Community Events, (Jackie, Stacey & Cynthia)

- Identifying annual events for a community calendar using Google, social media, and Otis Observer
- Digital calendars and keys to the town kiosks to post flyers
- road clean-up, Katy Utenis willing to coordinate town-wide cleanup
- Contacted food trucks to see about coming to town.
- YouTube channel run by student reporters sponsored by the Otis Observer

Working Group #3 – Business, Culture & Recreation, Glenn, Hal, Celeste, Susan, Stacey.

- Otis Bylaws
- Analyze Business responses of the assessment survey and conduct a focus group.
- List and compile resources that might be available as incentives for
- Consider promoting Otis to potential new businesses
- Consider how to make the most of outdoor recreation opportunities

Working Group #4 - Downtown, (Stacey, Cynthia, Sue Brofman)

- This committee will apply for the MA Development Planning & Technical Assistance Grant , with input from Brandi Page and Larry Gould
- Files are being started on various properties that might be available for development
- Discussion about the difficulty of installing a Roundabout

Working Group # 5 – Infrastructure, **Working Group #6** – Services & Population Retention/Growth not yet meeting

Working Group # 7 – Cost/Benefit

- Group members taking webinars about various aspects of grant-writing

Meeting adjourned at 12:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Ebitz, Secretary

Next meeting: June 23rd **Town Hall*, 10:00 AM**

Future Meetings: quarterly report to selectboard due in July, July 28th, August 25th, September 22nd, quarterly report due to the selectboard in October, October 27th, November 24th, December 22nd, report to Selectboard due in January 2026, January 26, 2026,