

**11/4 Minutes: Otis Revitalization Business, Culture & Recreation Subcommittee Meeting**  
**Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM**  
**Zoom Only \***

Members present: Glenn, Stacey, & Susan

Members absent: Celeste & Hal

Guests: Ross Knowles, Lisa D' Orazio

1. Glen called the meeting to order 10:05 AM
2. Introductions were made
3. Tabled approval of minutes 10/28/ due to lack of quorum
4. Review list and discuss action plan for business outreach
  - Reviewed list of potential businesses compiled by Stacey
  - Discussed three approaches: mailing letters, in-person visits, and hosting "Notice Otis" days
  - Agreed to create a shared Google Sheet to organize contact information
  - Decided to categorize businesses by type (artisanal food, outdoor recreation, health/wellness)
5. **Otis Poultry Farm** - Farm Recently purchased by Pete Stearns
  - Plans include moving his rock cutting/masonry business to back section
  - Will maintain community garden and plant Christmas/ornamental trees
  - Potential for retail/kitchen space rental
6. **Terranova Property**
  - Committee working with UConn to assess brownfield status
  - Some cleanup has already occurred
  - Technical assistance grant will help determine next steps
  - Property has back taxes and fines for not cleaning up
7. **Other topics**
  - Ross brought up the blight in both Otis and East Otis and offered to help
  - Banking services: Previous outreach to Lee Bank and Berkshire Bank unsuccessful; committee will approach additional banks
  - East Otis Schoolhouse: Concerns about lack of visible progress on renovation
  - McManus Store: Facing challenges with parking regulations that prevent reopening
8. **Action items**
  - **Stacey**
    - Email Ben Lamb at One Berkshire about potential assistance with "Notice Otis" events
    - Create shared Google Sheet for business contact information
  - **All Committee Members**
    - Research contact information for businesses on the list
    - Add information to shared Google Sheet

- Categorize businesses by type (artisanal food, outdoor recreation, health/wellness, banking)
- **Susan**
  - Consult with Lynn about meeting minutes requirements when lacking quorum
  - Prepare minutes from current and previous meetings

**9. Meeting was adjourned at 11:45**

- **Next Meeting**
  - Scheduled for November 24th at 10:00 AM via Zoom

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Ebitz  
TOR Secretary