

**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