

## Town of Shaftsbury ARPA committee

August 18, 2022

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order in person at Cole Hall and remotely via the Zoom platform at 4 p.m. Present were committee members Andrea Bacchi (chair), Rick Bennett, Tony Krulikowski, Betsy Habberfield, and Naomi Miller. Also present were Martha Cornwell and town administrator David Kiernan.

### 2. Conflict of Interest Statement

No one reported a conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.

### 3. Minutes

Mr. Krulikowski moved to approve the July 8 minutes. Ms. Habberfield seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0.

### 4. Gathered Data - Naomi and Andrea

Ms. Bacchi presented a spreadsheet capturing the responses to the ARPA survey – 148 digital responses and 63 postcard surveys. That spreadsheet is incorporated by reference in these minutes.

Ms. Miller went through the spreadsheet. “Food venues” and “communal spaces” ranked high among general economic development. A town green near Cole Hall was ranked highly. While roads received much attention, the number of people concerned about them was relatively small. Social services ranked highly. Ms. Miller said she thought the survey was a representative sample (albeit self-selected); more people responded than attend town meeting.

Ms. Cornwell heard from several people that they wanted to learn how the survey went and to what use it would be put. Ms. Bacchi said she hoped to put up a “thank you” on the town website and to email people personally. And to write a letter to the Banner editor.

The group discussed summarizing the results on the town website. Mr. Kiernan suggested the committee edit the list before sharing. He suggested inviting non-profits to present in September. Mr. Bennett will contact Rick Kobick, Mitch Race, and the new historical society president.

Ms. Miller suggested that rather than a letter to the editor the group issue a press release, which could result in an article in the Banner. Mr. Kiernan will help Ms. Bacchi with the details for the press release – what projects are underway already, which aren’t eligible, etc.

It was agreed that the cards will be sent to the principal of the elementary school to be shared in some fashion with school people. Mr. Kiernan thought the committee should work with the school data separately and later.

It was agreed that the spreadsheet as a whole would be shared with the Select Board, but that the committee should winnow the results down to a few priorities. Once Mr. Kiernan edits the spreadsheet, committee members will organize their thoughts as to which are priorities. Ms. Bacchi thought the committee should be prepared to explain to the Select Board what the return on each priority could be.

### 5. Committee goals and planning

Ms. Bacchi will reach out the school principal. Ms. Cornwell suggested Monday assembly at school. The next meeting will be held Thursday Sept 1 at 2 p.m. Mr. Bennett will invite the non-profits, though the expectation is they will probably need a different time.

Future meetings for community participation will be held Sept. 29 and October 13, 6 p.m. An additional meeting will be held for committee members only between Sept. 1 and Sept. 29.

Ms. Bacchi will send the press release to Jen Holley.

Ms. Miller asked committee members to send her their thoughts on priorities in the upcoming week. She will consolidate responses.

The group considered and rejected pot lucks for the public meetings.

#### 6. Public Comments

There were none.

#### 7. Other Business

#### 8. Review of Action Items

- Mr. Bennett will reach out to non-profits re Sept. 1 meeting.
- Ms. Bacchi will reach out to school principal.
- Mr. Krulikowski will get the boxes from the POs.
- Ms. Bacchi will draft a press release.
- Mr. Kiernan will edit and share the list.
- Ms. Bacchi will produce a thank you message and graphic and share with webmaster and social media.

#### 9. Adjournment

Mr. Krulikowski moved to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. Ms. Habberfield seconded the motion, which passed 4-0-0. (Mr. Bennett had left moments before.)