

Devens Enterprise Commission
(DEC) Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
Minutes November 3, 2022

Members Present: Duncan Chapman, Dix Davis, James DeZutter, Melissa Fetterhoff, Robert Gardner, Christopher Lilly, William Marshall, Martin Poutry, Paul Routhier, Deb Seeley

Staff: Peter Lowitt, Neil Angus, Beth Suedmeyer (joined at 7:45 AM), Dawn Babcock

Guests: Donna Bulger (Clear Path for Veterans), Dona Neely (Devens Eco-Efficiency Center)

Members Absent: Jim Pinard, Deb Rivera

(7:30 AM) Chairman William Marshall called the meeting to order and did a roll call

Mr. Marshall read that the Devens Enterprise Commission Regular Meeting and Public Hearing is being held virtually in accordance with the Act (Senate Bill #2475) relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone and/or on-line by. Persons with disabilities or requiring interpretation wishing to listen or participate should contact 978.772.8831 x3334. In accordance with the State's Open Meeting Law, Mr. Angus informed all attendees that the Devens Enterprise Commission is recording this meeting.

(7:33 AM) Mr. Marshall reviewed the Agenda of today's meeting

(7:36 AM) Review Minutes:

- **October 25th Minutes** were discussed, and Mr. Marshall asked if anyone had any edits or concerns. None were noted. Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written and the motion was made by Mr. DeZutter and seconded by Mr. Poutry. The Motion to approve the October 25th minutes was **Approved by a roll call vote, Mr. Davis and Mr. Routhier abstained from the vote as they were not present for the October 25th meeting.**

Public Hearings:

- **(7:38 AM)** The Chairman read the legal notice. **Event Permit and One-Day Beer and Malt Beverage License** request by Clear Path for Veterans New England for the **Journey Home 5/10 K Run** to take place on **84 Antietam Street** (Parcel ID #31-99-900) on Sunday November 13, 2022, from 10 AM – 12 PM. Mr. Angus handled this hearing and introduced Ms. Bulger from Clear Path for Veterans who will be hosting the event. Ms. Bulger noted that this is the 4th Annual event and that they are expecting approximately 150 participants. They will be working with True North Co. again on the event. The 5K run will be one loop and the 10K will be 2 laps of the same loop. After the runners have completed their loop(s) they will be able to get a beer or malt beverage in the fenced in area (dog training area) Ms. Bulger reviewed the plans for the day, which included the route the race will be taking, lay out of the vendors, schedule for the event and the safety measures put in place for the event. State Police will be in the fenced area where the Alcohol will be served, Animal Control Officer will be available as the event is Dog Friendly, as well as several volunteers. Mr. Marshall asked if there were any questions from the Commissioners and Public, none were asked. Mr. Angus then went over the staff report and noted the following eight conditions.

1. The one-day All- Alcoholic Beverages license is valid on Sunday, November 13, 2022, from 10:00AM to 12:00 PM only.
2. The serving and consumption of Beer and/or Malt Beverages is limited to the ~40'x 60' fenced in area at 84 Antietam Street as shown on the event layout plan. A police officer shall be inside the fenced area at all times while alcohol is being served/consumed.
3. The Applicant is an individual, as the responsible manager for the organization and shall control the dispensing of alcohol to persons not under the age of twenty-one (21) and shall not serve alcohol to individuals who are or "appear to be" under the influence of alcohol.
4. The Licensee must purchase alcoholic beverages from an authorized source. Licensees CANNOT purchase from a package store and CANNOT accept donations from anyone.
5. All waste must be contained on-site and properly disposed of. Recycling is mandatory.

To ensure the event complies with 974 CMR 8.00 (Public Health and Safety) Regulations, Staff would recommend the following conditions be added to this license:

6. Any food vendors shall be licensed through the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health.
7. The Applicant and any vendors shall obtain tent permits for any tents larger than 10'x 12' being used for the event. The Applicant and any vendors shall comply with the DEC Emergency Generator Guidelines for

any emergency generators that will be used:

https://www.devenssec.com/forms/Elec_Generator_Guidelines_Aug_2022.pdf .

8. The Applicant shall coordinate all off-site road race traffic and safety within Devens with MassDevelopment, the State Police, Devens Dog Warden, and the Devens Public Safety Officer and provide a cleanup crew for public areas along the route, during and post event. This includes animal waste pick-up.

Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to close the hearing. The motion was made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Routhier. **The hearing was closed by a unanimous roll call vote.** Mr. Marshall then asked for a motion to Approve this Application, the motion was made by Ms. Seeley and seconded by Mr. Lilly. The motion to approve the application was **Approved unanimously by a roll call vote.**

New Business:

- **(7:44 AM) Invitation to attend NRWA Onward! Celebration and Elizabeth Ainsley Campbell's Retirement 11-18 7-9:30:** Mr. Lowitt noted that the DEC has been a major sponsor to the NRWA and he has asked for a table for the event on the 18th and is now looking for names from the Committee as to who will be attending the event so they can see about being seated together. Mr. Lowitt has asked Ms. Babcock to collect the names and to contact NRWA to see about getting them seated together
- **(7:46 AM) Devens Eco-Efficiency Update:** Mr. Lowitt introduced Ms. Neely, the Director of the Devens Eco-Efficiency Organization. Ms. Neely brought the Commissioners up to date since Covid. They received a grant from North Central Massachusetts Community Foundation which has enabled them to receive support from a contractor which in-turn built relationships for more channels to come to the Great Exchange. Ms. Neely is hopeful that they will be able to hire a new staff member in FY23. The Great Exchange portion of the Eco-Efficiency hours are remaining Wednesday – Friday 9:00 – 4:30 and they have added 1 Saturday a Month 10:00 – 1:00. They have had a great turnout on Saturday to the point that they are offering both the Supply store as well as the Furniture store. The inventory has increased from 80 different items to over 800 items. With the use of Website, Facebook, and Facebook Market Place they have been able to keep their customers updated on their inventory. They are hoping to add eBay to their Sale options soon. Currently they have over 30 different resources that they are collecting items from. Currently the big-ticket locations are National Grid, Becker College, and Mass DEP. Some of their items have gone to Homeless organizations, Tufts Animal Hospital and as far as the Congo. DEEC has reached out to partner with Auctioneers, Movers, and Waste Haulers. DEEC has even had the opportunity to do a couple of short new clips about their offerings. These started out as an Earth Day short clip for USA Today and that turned into a feature story on CBS/Channel 4. Which has contributed to their record-breaking shoppers this year. Ms. Neely offered to answer any questions. Mr. DeZutter commended Ms. Neely for all that they have been able to do and commented that with her keeping the prices the same may add to even more shoppers with inflation the way it is right now. Mr. Chapman asked if they are trying to reach further than just Devens. Ms. Neely noted that was why the start of the Saturday hours so teachers can come then as they are not able to make our weekday hours after their school day ends.
- **(8:13 AM) DEC Meeting and Public Hearing Schedule January – June 2023:** Mr. Lowitt noted that he has received a few requests for submission dates from Developers as they are looking to have their project through the approval process for a spring Project start date. Mr. Lowitt asked for the commissioners to look at the dates listed and to let DEC know if there are any that will not work for them.
- **(8:15 AM) Social Media Update:** Mr. Angus gave a social media minute update. Noting that Green Infrastructure at Devens, monthly spotlights of business in Devens, and the restart of the Shuttle Service. Mr. Angus asks that everyone likes and share these items with their friends/connections on the social media sites. Mr. Marshall asked if there were any questions from the Commissioners and Public, none were asked.

Old Business:

- **(8:17 AM)** Mr. Lowitt did have one item he would like to make the Commissioners aware of. **The Cap Issue** Mr. Lowitt noted that the bill containing our Cap Issue is going to be voted on sometime today. Fingers crossed the entire bill gets approved as it is an all or nothing bill. Mr. Lowitt noted that he has talked to Senator Eldridge's office, and they stated that most of the issues regarding this bill have been resolved so they are confident that the bill will pass today. Mr. Marshall noted the work that Mr. Angus and Mr. Lowitt did to get this into the Bill and in front of towns. He also thanked the Commissioners who attended their respective town meetings when the issue was brought to their attention.

(8:20 AM) Public Comment - Mr. Marshall asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. None were noted
Mr. Marshall then noted the upcoming meeting. November 29th at 6:45 PM The Public Hearing and then December 8th at 7:30 AM Monthly Meeting.

(8:22 AM) Mr. Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Mr. Gardner and seconded by Mr. Davis.
Adjournment was concluded unanimously by Roll Call.

List of Exhibits

Agenda

Minutes

- October 25th

Veterans Run

- Application
- Road Race Details
- Parking Plan
- Event Layout
- Staff Report

New Business

- Jan – June 2023 Meeting Schedule
- Jan – June 2023 Submission Dates