

# **TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**



## **PUBLIC INFORMATION/OUTREACH MEETING**

**Monday, September 9, 2019**

**6pm**

**Town Office Meeting Room**

**Northeast Harbor**

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**Come share your thoughts, ideas and priorities with the  
Committee**

# Town of Mount Desert Economic Development Committee

## Committee Mission and Structure

### Purpose and Mission:

The Town of Mount Desert Economic Development Committee is organized to promote the economic vitality of the Town of Mount Desert (Town). In partnership with other Town and regional organizations, its goal is to support existing businesses, attract and support new business ventures and encourage other activities that foster a healthy and sustainable year round community.

### Organization and Administration:

1. Committee Term – The Committee shall be in effect indefinitely as a standing committee of the town until disbanded by a vote of the Town of Mount Desert Board of Selectmen.
2. Membership – The Committee shall consist of a minimum of five (5) members and a maximum of fifteen (15) members who shall serve without compensation and shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The select board will consider the following recommended representation in making appointments, whenever possible, with the understanding that this representation is not a requirement:
  - a. One member from the Town of Mount Desert Chamber of Commerce
  - b. Two members from the Town of Mount Desert Business Community
  - c. One member from Mount Desert 365
  - d. Three summer residents
  - e. Four at-large members from different villages of the town
  - f. One or more non voting ex-officio members of the Board of Selectmen
  - g. Two non-voting ex-officio members of town staff

Appointments may be terminated without cause by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen.

3. Member Term – Members shall serve for terms of three years. Terms shall be initially staggered as follows:
  - a. Five –one year terms
  - b. Five – two year terms
  - c. Five – three year terms

Members may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms regardless of the length of the initial term and may be reappointed after being off the Committee for one year. All initial terms begin on June 1, 2019.

4. Chairperson – The Committee shall elect a Chairperson from among its members. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings.
5. Vice Chairperson – The Committee shall elect a Vice Chairperson from among its members to serve in the absence of the Chairperson.

6. Secretary – The Committee shall elect a Secretary from among its members. The Secretary shall maintain a record of all proceedings of the Committee and regularly submit the records to the Town Clerk.
7. Officers will be re-elected annually at the first meeting in June by a vote of Committee members.
8. Notice – All meetings shall be held in a public space and scheduled through the Town Manager or Clerk who shall provide reasonable notice to the public.
9. Quorum – A quorum necessary to conduct business shall consist of at least five voting members.
10. Committee members in attendance at meetings electronically (Skype, Zoom, teleconference etc.) may participate in all Committee discussions but may not vote and shall not count toward the number of voting members forming a quorum.
11. The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson or any three members of the Committee may call a meeting.
12. Meetings shall be held at least quarterly on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm beginning October 9, 2019.

TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Public Meeting, September 9, 2019  
6 pm, Town of Mount Desert Town Office

This past June, after several years as an informal committee of year round and seasonal residents, the Town of Mount Desert Economic Development Committee (the Committee) was established as a standing committee of the town by the Board of Selectmen. The Board took this important step to enable better communication between the Committee and town residents and to more fully integrate the Committee's activities into town government.

The Committee's mission is to promote the economic vitality of the Town of Mount Desert through the support of existing businesses, the attraction and support of new business ventures and the encouragement of other activities that foster a healthy and sustainable year round community. Coordination and cooperation with other town entities, such as the Chamber of Commerce and Mount Desert 365, is a guiding principal in all our efforts.

There are currently 13 voting members of the Committee, two non-voting ex-officio town staff members and two non-voting ex-officio members of the Board of Selectmen. Committee members may serve two 3-year terms and elect the Committee Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary annually. Current members include:

**Voting Members:**

Dan McKay (C)	Don Graves	James Blaine
Rick Wheeler	Sam McGee	
Minot Weld (S)	Wendy Wood (VC)	
Seth Singleton	Heather Daly Jones	
Kathy Miller	Nancy Ho	
Stephanie Kelley Reece	Averel Wilson	

**Non-Voting Members:**

Matt Hart	Martha Dudman
Tony Smith	Durlin Lunt

The Committee is funded through the Town's Community Development budget. These funds support consulting staff assistance to the Committee as well as its activities and initiatives.

Past activities of the prior, ad hoc Committee have included business expansion, town signage, marketing and Land Use Ordinance initiatives, event programs, broadband planning and the Northeast Harbor Village Center Improvement Plan.

The purpose of this meeting is to listen to citizens about what initiatives they think the Committee should focus on in the coming year. As a new Committee, its goal is to encourage as much citizen input as possible so that it fully understands the issues and opportunities that are most important to the community.

# WHAT IS THE TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

September 9, 2019

The Town of Mount Desert Community Development Corporation (TMDCDC) is a private, non-profit community development organization that was created as an adjunct to the Town's original "ad hoc" Economic Development Committee. Its mission is to promote the health and well being of the residents of the Town of Mount Desert through public infrastructure improvements, historic preservation and community beautification efforts, and other activities that foster a healthy and sustainable year round community.

This corporation (a 501(c)(3) organization) was created as a vehicle through which private, tax-deductible donations could be made to support public projects within the Town of Mount Desert that might not be feasible if the Town were to rely solely on taxpayer dollars. The TMDCDC is governed by a volunteer board composed of year round and summer residents of the Town. Current members of the board include: Nancy Ho (President), Dan McKay (Treasurer), Don Graves (Secretary), Sam McGee, Averel Wilson, Minot Weld, Wendy Wood, Martha Dudman (ex-officio), Matt Hart (ex-officio) and Durlin Lunt (ex-officio).

Over the past year, the TMDCDC's first project, the Promenade Park, a project envisioned as a part of phase II of the Northeast Harbor Village Center Plan, has been in the planning phase. The role of the TMDCDC has been to work with the Northeast Harbor Village Center Plan Committee and Town officials to design a park that establishes a clear connection between Main Street and the harbor and which provides a beautiful, green space within the village core. All costs of design have been paid with private donations raised by the Corporation.

The timing of park construction will be dependent on the TMDCDC raising additional private funds to build the park as well as coordination with the Town of Mount Desert, which would need to vote to accept the park at a future town meeting.

Future activities of the Corporation will, in large part, be determined by decisions made by the new Town of Mount Desert Economic Development Standing Committee and will continue to serve as a means to foster private support for local economic and community initiatives.