

Background & Rationale:

A key need identified by the Local Comprehensive Planning Committee is the need for Wellfleet to develop increased year-round economic opportunities. The Committee determined that attempting to increase economic activity during the summer "season" is probably not desirable for a number of reasons.

We should be looking at ways to make Wellfleet a year-round tourist "destination", both by promoting activities and events, and by direct solicitation of possible groups. We should also consider ways in which we can make Wellfleet more attractive for private business owners to set up shop in our town.

Our Town has a wealth of resources, both natural and human. In addition there appear to be the following indisputable factors relative to the "off-season" of mid-September-June:

- 1) An underutilized marina and harbor;
- 2) An aging population in increasing need of programs and services;
- 3) A vibrant and extensive arts community, a new theater; numerous galleries;
- 4) Extensive contacts in the university, educational and non-profit worlds;
- 5) A remarkable library facility and staff;
- 6) A set of natural resources unique on Cape Cod in terms of untouched beauty, diversity and potential for exploration and study.
- 7) A diverse community which could be ripe for augmented technical training, especially for youth, leading to higher paying jobs;
- 8) Underutilized housing and rental facilities.

Implicit in the listing of these resources is the potential for increased commerce and economic activity which could help us increase the year-round economic viability of Wellfleet and sustain our community character.

Committee Structure & Composition:

We ask the Board of Selectmen to create a Citizens Economic Commission consisting of 5-7 persons. These should include people with interest and expertise in the following areas:

present business community (Chamber of Commerce)
harbor & marina & study of natural resources;
educational opportunities including technical training for youth and adult education;
health services and programs;
technology and internet infrastructure for business;
non-resident taxpayers' group;
the arts, theater, visual arts, galleries, arts festivals
recreation programs & activities; S.P.A.T
regional resources (Cape Cod Commission; neighboring towns)

We hope this group could have a modest budget (\$2500 suggested) to conduct research, printing etc. It should also have staff support from the Town.