



## **Minutes: Economic Development Advisory Committee November 14, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Economic Development Advisory Committee was held on November 14, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Vice Chair Carrie Wetherbee as Chairman presiding.

**Board Members:** Carrie Wetherbee, Gina Bertucci (Absent), Carl Wilgus, Beverly Brown, and Joseph Memoli.

**Township Staff:** Supervisor Annette Atkinson, Robert Rengifo, Liaison and recording secretary, and Patrice Dume, Economic Development Committee Manager.

**Township Residents/Guests:** None.

Meeting started at 6:34 pm with Vice Chair Carrie Wetherbee presiding.

### **Minutes and Agenda**

- Motion to accept and approve the minutes from the October 10, 2016 meeting was made by Carl Wilgus, Beverly Brown seconded the motion. All members were in favor.
- Motion to accept and approve the agenda with additions for meeting on November 14, 2016 was made by Carrie Wetherbee. Joseph Memoli seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

### **Correspondence**

- No correspondence

### **Old Business**

#### **Shop Local**

- Robert Rengifo discussed the status of the Shop Local program. There are 48 participating businesses in this year's Shop Local discount program. All material has been sent to the printer in order to create the Shop Local Discount Card which will be inside the township newsletter.
- The committee held a general discussion on the reasons why chains such as Price Chopper have not yet participated in Shop Local program. The Economic Development Committee needs to provide details and requests several weeks earlier as corporate moves slower than small independently owned businesses.

### **New Business**

#### **Introduction of Patrice Dume, new hire (Economic Development Manager)**

- The committee all welcomed Patrice to the EDC meeting.

#### **Board Member's Realtors list**

- Committee discussed how to divvy up commercial realtors in the area amongst the board members.
- Beverly Brown discussed the possibility of a professional development facility being constructed near the township border.
- Joseph Memoli stated that he will join Beverly Brown on all of the meetings she has with realtors, in order to get a better understanding of how the meetings operate.

- The committee delegated the remaining realtor's amongst all board members.
- Annette went over the general topics that are usually discussed when the township meets with local commercial realtors and that it is best to attend the realtor's sales meetings.
- Carrie Wetherbee asked about the status of the Move in/ Move out ordinance. Annette Atkinson responds that the ordinance is not a selling point for attracting businesses to the township, but the ordinance is in progress.

#### Types of New Businesses

- There was an open discussion on what business additions would best benefit the township.
- Joseph Memoli led discussion regarding the services and functionality of the current urgent care facility in the township.
- There is a general discussion amongst the committee of the fact that many residents commute out of state therefore may do a majority of their shopping out of state as well.

#### **Public Comments**

- None

**Meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2016. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.**

DR