



Minutes: Economic Development Advisory Committee July 11, 2016

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township Economic Development Advisory Committee was held on July 11th, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Robert Hetu as Chairman presiding.

Board Members: Robert Hetu, Carrie Wetherbee, Gina Bertucci, Carl Wilgus, and Beverly Brown

Township Staff: Supervisor Annette Atkinson, Courtney Woytko as the Liaison

Township Residents/Guests: Robert Lovingheim – Supervisor of Smithfield Township, Jaap Chatha, and Ed Regina

Meeting started at 6:33 pm with Robert Hetu as Chairman.

Minutes and Agenda

- Motion to accept & approve the minutes from the June 13th, 2016 meeting was made by Gina Bertucci. Beverly Brown seconded the motion. All members were in favor.
- Motion to accept & approve the Agenda for July 11th, 2016 made by Carl Wilgus. Gina Bertucci seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

Correspondence

- No correspondence

Old Business

NPS/Geo

- The events used to launch was accomplished and it is being moved from launch to management structure.
- There was 630 nominations and now it is being moved to the next phase.
- It will be highlighting special events like the Port Jarvis River Cleanup and Digman's Ferry.

Newsletter

- Discussed the current newsletters that are being delivered to all residents of the township.
- Everyone agreed that it does not need to be bigger and that there is enough information in it.
- Carrie suggested having one large recap newsletter at the beginning of the year and have smaller newsletters throughout the upcoming year.
- Jaap suggested having sponsorships or advertising opportunities throughout the newsletter to help cover the costs.

- Carrie suggest calling it, “Middle Smithfield’s Year in Review”.

New Business

- The Economic Development would like to welcome Jaap Chatha who purchased the Four Seasons Diner and is going to turn it into something spectacular.
- Jaap has been in the industry for 7 years while his first restaurant was in Bangor, PA. It was called the Broadway Pub. His other establishment is Tally Ho in Bethlehem, PA.
- Jaap came across this property from his realtor and wants to turn it into a nicer sports bar and still be a very affordable establishment with no nightlife (club atmosphere).
- When it comes to employment and hiring individuals, Jaap plans to hire 25 full time and part time employees to start and could potentially rise to 30/35 depending on business.
- The liquor license is being transferred from the Four Seasons Diner.
- His goal is to have it up and running by Labor Day.

Fall Plans

- Bob wants to sum up the Fall plans for this year
- Shop local will begin at the end of November and this will be the 3rd shop local that MSTEDC will be putting together.
- Planning to start everything late August/early September
- The “Where MST” app can serve as a directory.
- Bob asked to be sent a timeframe on the business directory.
- Spoke about fossil day and suggested joining with the Historical Committee to gather ideas all together.
- Would like to get together a list of VIP’s for the dedication ceremony and to coordinate a date and time during the month of October.
- Everyone agreed that there should be some type of luncheon directly after the dedication ceremony which will take place in the Wendy’s parking lot off of route 209.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2016. Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.