

Warren County Economic Development Committee (WCEDC)

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2017

Chair Schultheis called to order the Reorganization Meeting at 8:02 AM.

The following appointments were made:

Workforce Development/Education-**Eve Azar-Term 1/2017-1/2020,**

Corporate Industrial-**Stan Prater-Term 1/2017-1/2020,**

Freeholder Liaison District Central-**Linda Stettler-Term 1/2017-1/2020**

Mr. Tersigni made a motion to approve the appointments, seconded by Mr. Prater. All in favor.

Roll Call:

Present: Scott Anderson, Mitchell Jones, Andrea Kirchuk, John Kruk, Stan Prater, Chair Betty Schultheis, Herman Shoemaker, Linda Stettler, Todd Tersigni.

Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood and recited the Pledge.

Election of Officers: The following officers were nominated for the calendar year 2017: Chair, Betty Schultheis; Vice Chair, Todd Tersigni; Secretary, Andrea Kirchuk. Motion was made and seconded, all in favor.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Prater made a motion, seconded Ms. Stettler, to approve the December 8, 2016 minutes. All in favor.

Welcome and Introductions:

EDC members

Members of the Public

Calendar Of Meetings For 2017:

Proposed schedule of meeting dates and locations was presented.

- February 9 Wayne Dumont Bldg. 8:00AM
- March 13 Mansfield Township Municipal Bldg. 7:30PM
- April 13 Wayne Dumont Bldg. 8:00AM
- May 11 Wayne Dumont Bldg. 8:00AM
- June 8 Oxford Municipal Bldg. 7:30PM
- July 13 Wayne Dumont Bldg. 8:00AM
- August 10 Blairstown Municipal Bldg. 7:30PM
- September 14 Wayne Dumont Bldg. 8:00AM

- October 12 Phillipsburg Municipal Bldg 7:30PM
- November 9 Wayne Dumont Bldg. 8:00 AM
- December 14 Wayne Dumont Bldg. 8:00AM

Reports Of Committees

- Corey Tierney-Grow Warren Grant approved; 2 pieces have been put out to bid, will repost RFP in Feb/March
- Art Charlton-Tourism Update, Farm Art Update –
 - Need more items to include in the Wanderings newsletter.
 - There will be a new event this year in June a Jazz event held at Bread Lock Park.
 - Farm Art has stalled because of the loss of Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Warren County Agricultural Agent Kenesha Reynolds-Allie, who left for another job out of state, and lack of funding. Need info about grants for the arts.
- Status of Economic Development Consultants' Project
 - Development Process Audit-Health, Engineering, Planning-John Kruk, Dave Dech, Bill Gleba, Pete Summers – meeting was very positive.
 - Best Practices and Model Zoning Ordinances-Linda Stettler, Dave Dech – they will reach out to Gina for input and begin by reviewing Phillipsburg, Hackettstown and Mansfield.
 - Online Permit and Process Checklist/Permitting Tracking Tool- Andrea Kirchuk, Robert Sidie – Septic and well permits should be online. Permitting and tracking.
 - Protocol for Handling Land Use Planning and Economic Development Inquiries-Betty Schultheis, Stan Prater, Art Charlton – there is an opportunity currently under consideration, hope to have more info at next meeting.
 - Development, Revitalization and Brownfield Redevelopment-Todd Tersigni, Dave Dech –IR project is progressing, Peroni project is approved, JCP&L grant for Roseberry House, setting up meetings to discuss putting together list of brownfield properties that might make sense for development.

Ag Community Report: Mitch Jones:

- Ground water contamination on proposed preserved farm land is negatively impacting the value of the properties.

EDC Budget for 2017:

- Additional work from Consultants
- Hire Part time person

Old Business:

Goals for 2016:

- Goals will be defined and flow from the stakeholder meetings.
- Creation of a Foundation is premature – Goals need to be established first.
- Public Policy subcommittee – Working on several different issues with legislation being presented.
- Route 31 Shuttle has started running. More information can be found at 31ride.com

Open Comments from the Public:

Public attendees present: Dawn Smith, Karen Murphy, Sarah Brelvi, among others

Dawn Smith reported that a dispute has arisen in Mansfield about the role of their EDAC which has caused Betsy Griggs to resign.

Close Comments from the Public

New Business:

EDC needs to find out who has been designated by each town to be a liaison for the County EDC. EDC members will contact the following towns:

Andrea Kirchuk: Washington Boro, Washington Township and Mansfield Township

John Kruk: Hope and Oxford

Linda Stettler: Belvidere and White Township

Todd Tersigni: Phillipsburg and Lopatcong

Betty Schultheis: Allamuchy Township and Independence

Scott Anderson: Hackettstown and Liberty Township

Stan Prater: Pohatcong and Alpha

Mitch Jones: Harmony and Franklin

Herman Shoemaker: Blairstown and Hardwick

Chris Maier: Knowlton and Frelinghuysen

Eve Azar: Greenwich Township

Next Meeting:

February 9, 2017 at 8:00 AM.

Adjournment:

Todd Tersigni made a motion to adjourn, seconded by John Kruk, all in favor.