

Warren County Economic Development Committee (WCEDC)

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2017

Chair Schultheis called to order the Meeting at the Mansfield Township Municipal Building at 7:30 PM.

Roll Call:

Present: Eve Azar, Mitchell Jones, Andrea Kirchuk, John Kruk, Chair Betty Schultheis, Herman Shoemaker, Linda Stettler, Freeholder Jason Sarnoski.

Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood and recited the Pledge.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Stettler made a motion, seconded Mr. Kruk, to approve the January 12, 2017 minutes. All in favor.

Welcome and Introductions:

Chair Schultheis Welcomed all and thanked Mansfield Township for hosting.

EDC members

Members of the Public

Reports Of Committees

- Corey Tierney-Grow Warren Grant RFP was reposted, waiting for bids.
- Blirstown Appalachian Trail designated community, designation ceremony 4/22
- Art Charlton-Tourism Update, Farm Art Update –
 - Wonders of Warren insert will again be placed in the Skylands Visitor Magazine. Release date 3/21. Additional copies will be available.
 - Need more Wanderings newsletter sign ups.
 - Park Fest at Bread Lock Park scheduled for June 10, Live Jazz, authors and antique cars.
- Status of Economic Development Consultants' Project
 - Freeholder Sarnoski briefly summarized the Economic Development effort undertaken last year and the outcomes.
 - Tetrattech Consultant, Gina Behnfeldt, presented an over view of the Business /Development Inquiry Process.
 - Best Practices and Model Zoning Ordinances-reviewed best practice ordinance examples from New Orleans, LA, Michigan, Durham, NC and San Antonio, TX.

Open Comments from the Public:

Public attendees present: Brenda Sweeney, Darren Muso, Jim Palitto, Rob Sylvester among others

Question was asked about what efforts were being made to fill empty stores in strip malls and what is the biggest deterrent to Economic Development in Warren County.

Close Comments from the Public

New Business:

- New Role of Hackettstown Medical Center-will be discussed at the next meeting
- Entrepreneur Development-Ms. Azar will discuss the WCCC Entrepreneur Program at the next meeting.

Old Business:

- EDC Budget for 2017 – will be decided soon
- Creation of a Foundation to assist with funding – Gina explained the purpose of the foundation; Chair Schultheis and Gina will decide what this should be and who will work on it.

Next Meeting:

April 13, 2017 at 8:00 AM.

Adjournment:

Ms. Stettler made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Jones, all in favor.