

# Warren County Economic Development Committee (WCEDC)

## Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2017

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Chair Schultheis called to order the Meeting at 8:00 AM.

### **Roll Call:**

Present: Eve Azar, Mitchell Jones, Andrea Kirchuk, John Kruk, Chair Betty Schultheis, Herman Shoemaker, Linda Stettler, Chris Maier, Stan Prater, Todd Tersigni and Scott Anderson.  
Freeholder Jason Sarnoski

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

All present stood and recited the Pledge.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Azar pointed out minor errors on the minutes. Mr. Shoemaker made a motion, seconded Mr. Tersigni, to approve the June 8, 2017 minutes with corrections. All in favor.

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

Dawn Smith from Mansfield, Corey Tierney, and Kenneth Campbell from the Grown Warren Vendor hired by the county, Charlie Finneran from Allamuchy, Dave Dech, Art Charleton, and John Metroke Chair of the WC Cultural and Heritage Committee.

### **Reports Of Committees**

- Corey Tierney– GrowWarren.org website has been launched, Survey has been sent out, July 27 a meeting will be held to determine the assets and demands of Warren County.
- Jason reported that the county is looking in to getting federal funding for improved internet service in the northern part of the county.
- Art Charlton-Tourism Update, Farmers Fair 2017 – This is the first anniversary of explorewarren.org. They will be awarding prizes at the farmers fair to encourage additional signups for the newsletter.
- Betty reported on Status of Economic Development Consultants' Project :
  - New business is coming into WC, working closely to provide information as needed. It is a Pharma manufacturing company, they will be hiring 150-200 people.
  - There is an additional opportunity that Betty is working on.
  - Permitting System and data capture as well as sub-committee set up – meeting to be held to get input from various departments.
- Dave Dech reported that he is reviewing the application flow chart to see if there are ways that the process could be improved to speed things up.

## **PRESENTATION RE THE ROLE CULTURAL AND HISTORIC SITES PLAY**

### **John Metroke-Chair, WC Cultural and Heritage Commission**

- John reported that the commission has a 7 member board and is based in Shippen Manor. The Museum is open twice a month, re-enactors use the facility and there are weekly free concerts in the Summer that draw 200-300 people.
- Signage could be improved to increase visibility, parking is limited on street parking only, no lots are available, state grants provide some funds to the museum and the county pays for part-time employees.

### **Public Comment**

None

### **New Business:**

- Farmers Fair is coming up and EDC will have a space in the Freeholders building where we can leave brochures.
- Some ideas for a tag line for the county include “You can breathe the air here”
- We may want to solicit ideas from the public for a slogan/tag line.
- Do we want to have a Logo contest?

### **Old Business**

- EDC Budget for 2017
- Creation of a Foundation to assist with funding – this is on hold while Betty works on Red Carpet initiative.
- Talked about water quality and usage

Stan will bring the Economic Development person from First Energy to the September meeting.

### **Next Meeting:**

August 10 2017-7:30pm Blairstown Municipal Building 106 Route 94 Blairstown, NJ 07825

### **Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourned by Chris Maier, seconded by John Kruk