



**Meeting Minutes of
October 11, 2018, 8:00 a.m.
Wayne Dumont Administration Building
165 County Rte. 519 Belvidere, NJ 07823-1949**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Betty Schultheis at 8:10 a.m.

Roll Call: Mitchell Jones, Andrea Kirchuk, John Kruk, Chris Maier, Jim Palitto, Stan Prater, Jim Sheldon, Chair Betty Schultheis, and Freeholder Liaison Jason Sarnoski.

Guests: Warren County staff Art Charlton, Dave Dech, and Corey Tierney; Dave Detrick of the Warren Heritage Scenic Byway Steering Committee.

Presentation: After the welcome and introductions, Dave Detrick gave a presentation on behalf of the Warren Heritage Scenic Byway Committee. He asked to partner with the WC EDC to jump-start tourism. He submitted a proposal for 10 informational kiosks to be placed in the heritage corridor, and asked if the EDC has any funds or could identify funds to hold the project. Freeholder Sarnoski said we have money to fund this. After Mr. Maier expressed reservations about the idea, Chair Schultheis asked if he would head up a committee to look into this. He replied there was no need for a committee and the freeholders could decide if they wanted to include it in the budget. Mr. Kruk made a motion to agree there is an interest to partially fund the project, seconded by Ms. Kirchuk, and the motion carried.

Status on White Paper: Freeholder Sarnoski stated he talked with Warren County Community College President Will Austin regarding creation of document for elected officials and Land Use Boards regarding economic development, and still has not gotten the proposal. Mr. Kruk and Chair Schultheis will continue to work with President Austin on this.

EDC Poster Display: Mr. Kruk took the poster display to the Hope Municipal Building and it went well there.

Approval of Minutes: Revisions submitted to the meeting minutes of August 9, 2018 were accepted, and on a motion from Ms. Kirchuk, seconded by Mr. Prater, the minutes were approved. The September 13, 2018 minutes were moved by Mr. Palitto, seconded by Mr. Kruk, and approved.

Status on Processes: Warren County Planning Director Dave Dech asked to have a presentation next month with his updates.

Status on the Grow Warren grant: Warren County Land Preservation Director Corey Tierney discussed the overall status of the project including work on a logo, marketing plan, and website. The Grow Warren project will be in the final stages by November or December.

Update on new position in Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Warren County: Mr. Jones said the new agent, Hank Bignell, started work on September 11, and will be attending a meeting about the lack of livestock processing facilities in the area. Chair Schultheis talked about getting more involved with farmers in growing vegetables and providing them year-round in a heated greenhouse. She said that perhaps in January or February the EDC could host a presentation for farmers on this topic, to help keep them in business.

Status on proposed resolution: Mr. Prater said it passed. A public hearing is coming up November 13 at the Morris County Court House.

Phillipsburg Mall: It was reported that a sale of the Phillipsburg Mall sale is under contract. Details are not yet available.

Tourism: Warren County Public Information and Tourism Director Art Charlton said we have doubled the number information racks deployed in the county to six, from three. The new additions are at county library branches and at Warren County Community College. Mr. Maier suggested we have one at the Route 80 visitor center in Knowlton. Mr. Charlton said we already place the *Wonders of Warren County* publication there, and businesses can apply through the NJ Division of Travel and Tourism to have their brochures placed there at no charge.

Update on WCCC: Ms. Azar will do a report next month on what's going on at WCCC. She will update us on QuVa as well.

Update on Hackettstown BID: Mr. Sheldon reported that Oktoberfest went well, with approximately 8,000 attending.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Next meeting: November 8, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Nigro