

MIDDLE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
January 14, 2013

**Meeting called to order 6:40 pm**

Members present: Beverly Brown, Tim O'Donnell, Debbie Kulick (Chair), Parin Shah, Steve Feuer, Steve Van Why, Noreen Lowris, Ed Regina, Annette Atkinson (Supervisor), Mike Dwyer (Supervisor).

Excused: Bob Hetu, Carrie Wetherbee, Carl Wilgus

**Reorganization:** Officers elected for 2013 are Debbie Kulick Chair, Bob Hetu vice-chair, Noreen Lowris secretary with Carrie Wetherbee as standby secretary.

**Approval of minutes:** Dec. 10 minutes approved as amended (Supervisor Annette Atkinson attended meeting).

New meeting attendance requirements presented by Annette Atkinson (Resolution #01-2013-06):

**Committee Reports**

Sign Ordinance Committee: Revised ordinance reviewed by solicitor will go back to Sign Committee, then Planning Commission before public hearing.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Vision/mission Statement will be addressed by EDC member workshop in February (date to be announced).
- b. Survey project: Bob Hetu will update; revision of survey form discussed.
- c. Demographics: Tim reported on demographic study for our area. Bob will create presentation for brochure/flyer. Data representing true economic reflection of area discussed (traffic counts, rental stats, etc.). Bev, Tim, and Bob will work together to gather data. EDC members to email Tim O any new ideas for data gathering.
- d. Business inventory/directory: Steve Van Why to chair. He and wife Ruth will work to gather information for business directory.
- e. Bulk email list: Bob will report at next meeting.
- f. School Board presentation review: Good feedback on presentation to school board by EDC in December. Supervisors will issue invitation to ESASD school directors to meet with EDC on February 26th at 7:00 to further discuss implementation of business tax deferments with the purpose of securing a commitment from them on this issue. Debbie K will call board members to further secure commitments for this meeting. EDC will conduct an EDC member workshop on Jan. 29th to develop criteria to convince school board of the crucial importance of this issue to the district's future business development at Feb. 26th meeting.

## g. Future seminars/workshops:

1. Advertising seminar: Date, March 27th. Final proposal will be presented by Ed R and Noreen L at next month's meeting.
2. Home-based event: Carrie was absent, will report next month.
3. Social Networking: Bob H. absent, will report next meeting.
4. Future Events:
  - a. School Board meeting Monday, Jan. 28:  
Noreen and Steve Van Why will present initial verbal invitation at board meeting to meet with us Feb. 26 at 7:00 p.m.
  - b. NPS: John Donahue will meet with us later in spring (May?) to discuss cooperation between MST and park service for tourism promotion.
  - c. Job Fair: results from fall job fair discussed (good feedback). Tentatively will hold another job fair at end of April or beginning of May.
5. Supervisors' update: Annette discussed inviting people to get involved part-time with EDC for special projects, ad hoc committees, etc.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. "Shop Local" campaign: EDC will discuss ideas at next month's meeting.
- B. Dine around town: Thurs, Jan 31 EDC will meet at Portuguese restaurant at 6 pm to dine.
- C. Chamber expo, use of Chamber membership: March
- D. Business Association: next step, expanding townships discussed.
- E. School Board Candidates Forum: discussed most appropriate host venues for sponsorship.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING: January 24, 7:00 pm  
JANUARY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: January 28, 7:00 pm (Noreen and Steve V to present)  
EDC WORKSHOP: January 29<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm  
FEBRUARY EDC MEETING: February 11, 6:30 pm  
MEETING, EDC/SCHOOL BOARD: February 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm

No public comments

Adjournment, 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Noreen Lowris  
Secretary, EDC