

Minutes: Economic Development Date of meeting 11/18/2013

The regular meeting of the Middle Smithfield Township EDC, was held on Monday, November 18 2013 at 6:30 P.M. at the Schoonover Municipal Building with Deborah Kulick, Chairperson presiding.

Members present: Deborah Kulick, Tim O'Donnell, Beverly Brown, Carrie Wetherbee, Ed Regina, Steve Feuer, Parin Shah, Bob Hetu, Steve Van Way, and Carl Wilgus

Also in attendance Township Liaison Annette Atkinson, Supervisor, Mike Dwyer

Approval of Minutes: Minutes was approved for October 21, 2013 meeting.

Courtesy of the Floor / Public Comment: Absent members was Angel Santos, Sub-Committee member, Noreen Lowris.

Correspondence: Pyramid Rehabilitation Healthcare Center will hold their open house on December 13th, 2013 from 11 AM to 2 PM. Invite was sent to the Township.

Old Business:

- a. LERTA – Parin Shah reported that School Board Members Mr. Robert Gress and Mr. Robert Cook presented with LERTA proposal at the scheduled meeting with the School Board on Thursday, October 24th. The School Board has stated that they are interested in promoting businesses and should be invited to meet with new business partners. Would like to be part of this plan in the New Year. Mr. Gress suggested that a ten year extension should be granted. It appears that the Kalahari Corporation has a twenty year program through TIFF. However, this is not the requirements for LETRA which is based on a five to six year tax relief plan.
- b. It will be the responsibility of the members of EDC to assist applicants through the process. However, township taxes are small in comparison to county taxes.
- c. The Health Care Seminar hosted by EDC was held on September 18th. There seem to be conflict on how well received the seminar was for local businesses. The Supervisor report that there were less that five local business in attendance. It appears that Debbie counted all present which does not reflect the local businesses of Middle Smithfield Township.

- d. EDC draft and review the Ordinance for LERTA and followed the copy to the Supervisor for their action. We are currently waiting for approval of the Ordinance. This Ordinance will cover the Commercial Area, and Industrial areas within Middle Smithfield Township that would be eligible for a Tax Exemption per LERTA.
- e. Since the next step which includes the Ordinance is up to the Supervisor. Parin Shah has agreed to forward the Word Doc. to the Supervisors.
- f. Shop Local Project, headed by Bob Hetu will become part of the National Shop Local campaign which starts on November 30. 2013. American Express has available to use information, banners and forms to assist in this program. Middle Smithfield will take advance of any available material to kick off our Shop Local campaign.
- g. Information will be posted on the websites of, face book, YouTube, and posted signs in Echo Park, along with a Banner across 209 in the township. Middle Smithfield will conduct their campaign during the month of December in order to cover the Holidays.
- h. Tim O'Donnell along with his EDC members will work on the Business Directory for Middle Smithfield Township. It is planned that the first printing will be free to the township in the amount of 15,000 directories. The directory is planned to be released by spring.
- i. EDC must submit and complete the Project Application before it can be accepted and approved by the Town Supervisors. Volunteers on this project are Angel Santos, Carrie Wetherbee and lead person Tim O'Donnell.

New Business:

- a. Bargain Book Warehouse grand opening is December 6th at 11 AM.
- b. Dinning Around Town will be the Asian Restaurant, on November 21st. at 6 PM.
- c.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 PM

Minutes: C. Wetherbee