

**Economic Development Committee  
Town of Bridgeville  
April 2016 Update**

A few of the new banners are up on Market and Main Street. Hopefully the spring winds will settle down so the remainder can be installed.

The new town sign on the corner of Main and Market Streets has been installed and is based on the banners' branding theme. The theme was developed by Arnett Muldrow & Associates at the June consultancy to create "A Downtown Master Plan". A copies of the report are available for review in Town Hall and the Bridgeville Library.

New rack cards utilizing the same rocking chair theme are now available and additional uses of the branding theme are being introduced at the April 20th EDC meeting.

On March 16 in Town Hall, the EDC hosted a roundtable discussion with Sussex County commercial realtors who are marketing Bridgeville property. The purpose was to determine what is needed by the realtors to encourage Bridgeville's economic growth. The conversation was lively and informative. Seven realtors were in attendance, as well as Brenda Rambo, who is a member of the EDC. Several highlights of the discussion were:

- The town needs to bring water and sewer infrastructure to the large commercial areas that are not currently connected to the town's systems.
- Be aware that Downtown needs are different from those of the undeveloped commercial areas.
- Incentives for development should be established.
- The town should be user friendly "easy to do business with" and project a welcoming atmosphere.

To continue the momentum it was suggested that quarterly meetings with the EDC, realtors and bankers be held. The consensus was that Bridgeville is taking the right steps.

Applications for competitive matching grant money for commercial property owners on Market and Main Streets are due in Town Hall by April 8. A committee will choose the recipients. The funds budgeted for this project, as per Downtown Delaware, must be spent by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Projects must be completed by mid-June.

The EDC will continue to develop the Strategic Plan that was initiated in January.

The EDC will be offering the Commissioners economic development suggestions for inclusion in the FY 2017 budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Skala, Chairperson  
Economic Development Committee