



**Economic Development Committee Meeting
Town of Bridgeville
Agenda Minutes
Wednesday, May 17, 2017 9:00 a.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room**

Attending: Richard Grinnell, Deborah Brown, John Brodeur, James Speegle, Jeff Tull, Ralph Root, Harris Mager and Sue Grenier.

Absent: Ruth Skala, Lawrence Tassone, Harris Mager, Brenda Rambo, and Charles Smith.

Also attending: Tim Banks, Town Commissioner. Town staff: Jesse Savage, Ashley Walls.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the April 19, 2017 meeting were approved.

EDC Financials: Richard discussed the budget with the Committee. He talked about some of the remanding budget going toward Fabulous 4th Fridays.

Old Business

Railroad Signage: Harris Mager talked to Alex Duke of RAPA Scrapple, no decision yet however he is to meet with the President of Jones Dairy Farm who owns Rapa Scrapple and hopefully make a decision.

T.S. Smith Expansion: Charles Smith was not present. There is a sign that says they will be open soon. Deborah Brown asked if he is going to have vegetables or is he doing something else. Richard said that they are actually going to move some items from the old building and use his new facility as his main building because it is easier to get to. Also, later down the road T.S. Smith may add a bakery in the building. Jeff Tull said that the opening date is hopefully going to be June 15th, if not it will be the same weekend as the first Fabulous 4th Friday event.

Spring Incentive Grants: Richard discussed with the committee how they had proceeded with the grants that they had given before. There were three businesses that turned in applications, East Coast Restorations, Jeff's Taproom and Downtown Alley. The committee discussed the applications and decided there was not enough information to make a decision. John Brodeur volunteered to interview the three businesses for more information.

Banner Replacement: Richard said that Jesse had estimated the replacement banners at \$1,750. The Committee discussed the replacement banners. Motion for the \$1,750 to be put toward the replacement banners- Richard, 2nd- Harris; Motion carried.

Grant Research Status: Deborah Brown stated she has not had a chance to talk to Jesse about the Grant Research. Richard talked about different donation alternatives.

New Business

Farmers Market alternatives (i.e., First Friday; Food Trucks; etc.): Richard discussed with the committee the Fabulous 4th Friday events that will be happening in town. The committee discussed locations, times, vendors, food trucks, music and also fees. They also discussed licensing, possibly waving the fee for the Peddling and Soliciting licensing and advertisements. The committee discussed whether or not to go forward with June's event. They decided to set a drop dead date of June 9th and see what they can achieve by then. Also, decided to meet on May 23 at 10 am to discuss Fabulous 4th Friday information.

Main Stream Conference Feedback: Richard discussed with the committee the Conferences that he went to. The two in particular that he did go to were "Attracting New Business, Best Practice and New Trends" and "Developing a New Approach to Business Assistance." Richard said he has a copy of the slides if any of the members would like them.

Website Branding: Richard discussed that Ashley had already got back to him about this. One of the things that Richard had noticed is that the Website does not have any rocking chair on them. Richard discussed with the committee how he feels that the rocking chair should be right on the front page, and that that the website sells the Town to new residents.

DEDO Downtown Development Commercial District Affiliate Program: Richard stated that for the EDC to get free services from DEDO, the State requires the Commissioners pass a Resolution. Jesse stated that the Governor wants to disband DEDO.

Strategic Plan Review: Richard discussed with the committee that they need to narrow their focus on specific goals. He stated that the Commission right now is looking at new businesses and enhanced business. Richard discussed with the committee that each person needs to pick their top three things off of the Strategic Plan Review, that they believe need to get done to meet the goals of new business and enhanced business for the next monthly meeting.

Committee Members Comments:

John made an inventory report of the license plates. 29 total left, 6 at Town Hall and 6 at Downtown Alley. So they should have \$150 for phase 2.

Jesse stated that Sussex County just hired a new Economic Development Director, Bill Pfaff, and that the Committee should try to get him to come to a meeting to see what they are offering or pushing for.

Jeff Tull stated that the American flags will be going up May 25th.

NOTE: Next EDC meeting at 9:00 on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 in Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,



Ashley Walls, Transcriptionist