



**Town of Bridgeville**  
**Economic Development Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 22, 2020 10:00 a.m.**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room**

I. **Attending**, Richard Grinnell, James Speegle, Suzanne Farris & Sue Grenier.

**Also Attending:** Bruce Smith, Bethany DeBussy and Ashley Walls

**Absent:** Harris Mager, Aliceanne Zaras and Jane Houtman.

II. **Bridgeville Economic Development Strategic Plan Review**

Richard stated that they will be discussing the Economic Development Strategic Plan and reviewing it. Town Manager DeBussy asked if anything on the plan has been completed or if they have been completed do, they need to be revisited. Richard stated that some things have been completed. Jim stated that the Original Chart was confusing and Richard agreed. The Committee discussed how to set up the new Strategic Plan. Bethany stated that the goals make sense but that they need to go through the steps and see if there are things that need to be crossed off, changed or incorporated into the new one then resent it to the Commission for approval. Richard asked if they should all agree on the goals as the first step. Bethany stated yes. Richard then stated that then they can go back afterwards and see what has been done. The Committee discussed the goals for Economic Development. The Committee discussed whether to focus on Downtown or Rt 13. The EDC decided that their primary focus is the downtown area. The Committee discussed what downtown limits are. The Committee discussed providing grants not to just the downtown district. Bethany stated that they should cut the goal for increasing residential units downtown. The Committee discussed façade for downtown, crosswalks and tree planting. The Committee discussed sidewalks and if there was anything, they could do to repair them. Bethany stated that she can get a sidewalk inventory done with the help of a team that works with the University of Delaware. The Committee discussed Branding and Marketing to build community pride. Bethany stated that the Town has been getting complaints about the rocking chairs from residents. The Committee discussed doing surveys to see get residents impute. Sue stated that the Rocking Chair idea kind of died. Richard discussed promoting Bridgeville with the Committee. The Committee discussed building strategic relationships with Organizations and Individuals. Bethany stated that they should communicate with Businesses, see how they are surviving with the Covid-19 and how to promote them. Bethany stated that the Town is not going to get new businesses if they do not make sure their current businesses are surviving. Suzanne stated that businesses need to be open and most of it is not pandemic related. The EDC discussed how to promote businesses. Suzanne stated that the Town needs something that no one else has.

**III. Misc.**

Bethany stated that since the Commissioners have decided to put in a park space behind the O'Leary Building, next to Town Hall, they want to absorb the Brick Project and incorporate it with the new space. Bethany stated that the Town will be sending out personalized letters to the people that have already purchased the bricks and get their impute putting the bricks within the new project. Bethany stated that there will be new flags placed in the new space and that it would be more of a community space. Sue asked what the time frame would be. Bethany stated that they would have to come up with a plan in order to apply for the funding but the goal would be a year for the bricks depending on the complexity of the plans. Bethany stated that if the park is put in different phases, then she would like to see the bricks in the 1<sup>st</sup> phase. Richard stated that he believes this is a good idea and that the park space will be more open. Sue asked if there would be room for it to grow and Bethany stated that there would be room for more bricks. Sue stated that she thinks it is a good idea but she is just worried that people will not be want to wait any longer. Suzanne stated that they could list everyone that has bought a brick on the EDC website. Suzanne stated that she believes people will be flexible.

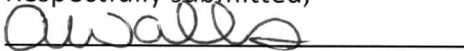
Suzanne stated that the Volunteer Conference is August 13, it is free to register and it is online.

Bethany stated that she will design a google document for the Strategic Plan for the Committee to make comments on.

**IV. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Ashley Walls, Transcriptionist