

Harrison Township, NJ
Economic Development Council
114 Bridgeton Pike
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
October 11, 2011
MINUTES

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 PM, Leslie McGeoch being the chair.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Members Present: Bob Dintino, Chris Knisely, Lisa Rysinger, Tom Sanders, Bob Shearer, Niki Trunk, Michele Vallone

Other: Jim Salvino (on behalf of the Mullica Hill Merchants' Association)

Secretary: Ellen McGeoch

4. Meeting Notice Posted

Minutes and agendas are posted on the Township website.

5. Privilege of the Floor

None.

6. Approval of Meeting Minutes: September 13, 2011

Chris Knisely motioned to approve the minutes, Tom Sanders seconded. The September minutes were approved unanimously.

7. Reports

Township Committee: Bob Shearer mentioned the continuation of the streetscape project. Mr. Shearer will find out if there are plans and/or renderings for the EDC to review.

Planning Board: Niki Trunk discussed the approved solar array application from Heritage Vineyards. Also, the most up to date plan for the Richwood Town Center will be discussed on October 17. The bypass is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. The Township is considering a new sewer rate based on consumption, which will benefit businesses.

Historic Preservation Commission: Chris Knisely discussed South Jersey Running & Triathlon Company's application for the demolition of a building. Those present suggested an automatic letter or template sent to businesses from Historic Preservation when a business submits paperwork. Also, businesses can come to the EDC for help with the process.

Mullica Hill Pond Committee: There was not a recent meeting to discuss.

Mullica Hill Merchants' Association: Jim Salvino discussed recent advertising in local publications. The turnout for the fall festival was comparable to last year. Lisa Rysinger added the Ghost Walk was well attended with 701 people. The Philadelphia Antique Dealers will be on Main Street October 29.

Harrison Township Beautification Committee: Niki Trunk discussed the 2012 Spring Social. She will organize, and needs volunteers to solicit donations. Members discussed possible locations for the event. Leslie McGeoch suggested the flat field behind Sisters.

8. Action Items

None.

9. Discussion

Mullica Hill Money: Leslie McGeoch shared that she has been unable to confirm where, when, and how the money will be sold. Bob Shearer is to ask the Township Committee at the next meeting about these concerns and relay the conclusions to the EDC. Leslie McGeoch proposed a meeting with the mayor as well as Carole Rieck to discuss the details of this program. The program is estimated to begin by the November Second Saturday. Lisa Rysinger is to send the original design for the Mullica Hill Money to the EDC for input. Additional materials include a window cling and tent card by the register for merchants. Leslie McGeoch mentioned the sale of Mullica Hill Money will only be by cash or check.

Harriston Township Business Association: Leslie McGeoch suggested the HTBA could be a body that would absorb Harrison Township Beautification. Niki Trunk mentioned if matters can be taken care of by the MHMA and the EDC then the merchants should seek help from those organizations first. Tom Sanders suggested looking at similar associations in similar communities, the implementation of subcommittees, having merchants pay dues, and having bylaws. The HTBA would host events for local business owners for networking and education purposes. Those present agreed that it would be helpful to know what role the HTBA would play, and how it would differentiate itself from the existing organizations. The EDC would also like to know the top three goals of the business association, and which businesses are taking leadership roles in its formation.

2012 Membership: Leslie McGeoch discussed membership for the 2012 year. All EDC members are appointed for a one-year term. All members should contact Ellen McGeoch before the next meeting to indicate whether they intend to serve on the EDC in 2012. The EDC will elect a Chair and Vice Chair at the first meeting of the new year.

10. New Business

11. Adjournment

Niki Trunk motioned to adjourn, Lisa Rysinger seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.