

Florence Twp Economic Development Committee Minutes 5/7/24

Florence, New Jersey

The Florence Township Economic Development Committee held a regular meeting on the above date in the header at the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey. Members of the public were invited to attend the meeting in person. The minutes reflect the meeting held on Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

The meeting was called to order by Economic Development Liaison, Martin Eckert at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

Present: Lisa Filippine, Tina Lloyd, Councilman Nick Haas, Parth Patel, Melissa Bond

Also Present: Martin Eckert Jr.

Absent: Marvin Wainwright, Joan Geary, Katie Wittkamp, Melissa Bond, Rich Popso

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Meeting of March 5, 2024

Motion of Filippine, seconded by Patel to approve the minutes as submitted.

COORDINATORS REPORT

- Marty Eckert provided to the committee information about upcoming events and activities that will be taking place in April and May.
 - Steel Mill Street fair on May 18th sponsored by the Burlington Mercer Chamber of Commerce
 - Opening Day for Recreation Spring Sports on April 13th
 - Roebling Carnival running from May 29th thru June 1st

COMMITTEES

- **Vacant Business Properties:** The committee discussed the excel worksheet which identified properties that are in the township's redevelopment zone as well as commercial properties that are currently vacant. Parth Patel is going to draft a letter for the committee to review which may be mailed to the owners of record for each property inquiring as to potential plans for the property.

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CORRESPONDENCE, EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

- Discussed during coordinators report.

NEW BUSINESS

- Tina Lloyd discussed events held at Subculture Brewery. Very nice facility and professional staff. They held an event near St Patrick's Day which was well attended. The hope is that they may continue to work with different food trucks and host gatherings where the community may come out to support the business. Marty shared that he will be meeting with them soon to go over similar ideas.

OLD BUSINESS

- The committee discussed the upcoming Dare Network event in June. Members are interested in attending to learn about what some other communities are doing with promoting local business and how their economic development programs are developed. Marty will follow up with details on registering for the June event.

MEETING OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Wali Lundy & Mikal Lundy present. They sat in and observed the committee meeting and expressed interest in developing a location to serve as a cultivation facility for marijuana. The site would not be a dispensary that would be open to the public. They are monitoring the township council's review of how such facilities may be approved in the township. They are going to attend other township committee meetings to learn what the process may be to move forward. They will also be looking at available properties in town for this purpose.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lloyd, second by Patel – 8:55pm