

MORRIS TOWNSHIP
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATION/REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2018- 6:00 P.M.

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CALL TO ORDER

The January 22, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee was called to order by Secretary Virginia Murphy, 6:15 P.M., in the Municipal Building, 50 Woodland Avenue, Morris Township, New Jersey.

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ATTENDANCE

Mr. Edward Burwell
Ms. Lorraine First
Ms. Kathleen G. Hyland
Mr. Leonard Posey
Mr. Scott Schubiger
Mr. Bruce D. Sisler
Mr. Richard Szuch
Ms. Susan M. Young

ABSENT MEMBER

Kathryn Viarengo, Tax Assessor

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Timothy F. Quinn, Township Administrator

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PRESIDING OFFICER'S STATEMENT RE: ADEQUATE NOTICE – O.P.M.A. – (RECORD INSERT)

Secretary Virginia Murphy issued the following statement of adequate notice:

“Adequate Notice” of this meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Morris was given as required and defined by the Open Public Meetings Act, as follows:

Written Notice was given on March 4, 2017 to the official newspapers, Morris County Daily Record, by email at least 48 hours prior to the date of this meeting, and a copy of the Notice was posted on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building of the Township of Morris by the Township Administrator, and a copy of the Notice was likewise filed in the Township Clerk's Office. Copies of this Notice were mailed by Certified Mail to all persons who have requested individual notice, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-19, all of which Notices were given at least 48 hours prior to the date of this meeting, and said notice will be retained in the Office of the Township Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Virginia Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance

OATHS OF OFFICE- ECONOMICDEVELOPMENTADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Oath of Office and Oath of Allegiance were administered to the following Economic Development Advisory Committee Members:

Ed Burwell
Lorraine First
Richard Szuch

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES- Minutes from the October 2, 2017 meeting were approved

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

With standard selection procedures being observed, Bruce Sisler was elected by a vote of 7-0 as Chairman for the ensuing year.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

With standard selection procedures being observed, Ed Burwell was elected by a vote of 7-0 as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

RESOLUTIONS:

In the next matter of business, the following resolutions were duly offered, seconded, and adopted by the vote as indicated at the end of the text of the resolution:

1-18 RE: RESOLUTION SETTING MEETING DATES FOR 2018

RESOLVED, that meetings of the Economic Development Advisory Committee for 2018 shall be held at 6:00 PM on the following dates at the Township of Morris Municipal Building, 50 Woodland Avenue, Morris Township, New Jersey:

March 5	July 2	Nov 5
April 2	Aug 6	Dec 3
May 7	Sept 10	
June 4	Oct 1	

- Set the EDAC meetings every first Monday, 6PM, starting March 5, 2018, and if there is no need for a meeting we will just cancel the meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

- Bruce welcomed the new members and gave them an overview of the Committee including the Morris Township business retention outreach, and also began to strategize on ways to fill the large, vacant office complexes in Morris Township. The former Chairman and Bruce met with a few businesses last year, and Bruce was looking to delegate some of those visits to the committee members this year.

-One of Bruce's objectives for the New Year is he would like the Committee to be more involved in endorsing or even not endorsing projects proposed to the Planning Board or other Boards. This Committee will compose a letter with that endorsement or recommendation.

-Ed asked if an endorsed project goes against Municipal Land Use Law, how hard would it be to challenge it? Ed asked because Ted Zangari gave us examples of towns that were "creative" or pushed/challenged the MUL/"rules" because they did not want to stand in the way of growth/ progress. The process was briefly explained and there is room to be creative.

-Kathy suggested one or a few committee members attend Planning Board meetings and report back to the Economic Development Committee. Be proactive and involved.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

- Cathy Wilson thanked the Committee for all the work they do. She thinks EDAC is a very important Committee.
- Cathy asked how many businesses there are in Morris Township. It was answered 400+. Cathy followed up with, did you meet with a quarter of those businesses? Bruce said no, they met with businesses they had contacts with for a trial run.
- One takeaway that resonated with Cathy from last EDAC meeting with Ted Zangari as a guest speaker was his idea of an Open House. Would this Committee be interested in hosting an Open House? Bruce said if the Committee would like to move forward with a Broker's Day, he would reach out to Ted Zangari for help.
- Cathy asked is Morris Township's vacancy rate 25%? It was answered yes, it's been consistent and around Morris County.
- Cathy asked for adequate notice for EDAC meeting cancellations and for the cancellation to be posted on the website.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

- Sue informed the Committee of her endeavors including starting a Green Team. She wants to encourage Morris Township residents to be environmentally responsible and will promote "reducing" – reducing energy, reducing water consumption, and reducing plastic and recycling. Plan to have a festival in August combining Technology, Environmental, and Health.
- Brief discussion on recycling, "Phantom Load", ways to reduce water, Recycling Coach App, and Sue gave us waste statistics.
- Scott recommended creating a catalog (marketing tool) to include Morris Township properties, addresses, square footage, and zoning. Have a competitive edge and ammunition in our pocket because Morris Township has a lot to offer. Not an easy project but would be worthwhile.
- Brief discussion on a few properties / medical complexes.

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ADJOURNMENT

The January 22, 2018 meeting, with no further business, was adjourned at 7:00 P.M., next to convene at 6:00 P.M., March 5, 2018 in the Municipal Building, 50 Woodland Avenue, Township of Morris.

Virginia Murphy
EDAC Secretary