

MORRIS TOWNSHIP
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019- 6:00 P.M.

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CALL TO ORDER

The May 6, 2019 Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee was called to order by Chairman, Cathy Wilson, 6:05 P.M., in the Municipal Building, 50 Woodland Avenue, Morris Township, New Jersey.

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ATTENDANCE

Mr. Ara Barsamian
Mr. Ken Bariahtaris
Mr. Paul DeNoon
Mr. Liam Gallagher
Ms. Kathleen G. Hyland
Mr. Jason Navarino

ABSENT MEMBER

Ms. Pamela Watson

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Cathy Wilson, Township Committee
Timothy F. Quinn, Township Administrator
Kathryn Viarengo, Tax Assessor

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

Cathy Wilson 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 February 2, 2019 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

Cathy Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- On a motion duly made, seconded, and carried by the votes as indicated, the reading of the minutes of April 1 , 2019 were approved as circulated.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Cathy gave a brief update on the cost of living project Ara and herself are participating in for Beth Kujan, MCEDC Project Coordinator
- Cathy wanted a head count for the May 8th, 5:30- 7:30 PM networking event at the Morris County School of Glass in Morris Township hosted by the MCEDC/ co-host Morris Township

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GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

- Cathy made an announcement about the 5/11 Municipal Innovation Summit at Fairleigh Dickinson University
- A brief update was given by Cathy about the local business profiles on Facebook. Very effective and popular- even getting requests to be featured
- Ed Burwell resigned from EDAC, saddened and he will be missed
- Jason reviewed the revised ordinance language. On a motion duly made, seconded, and carried by the votes as indicated, EDAC recommends the Twp. Committee amend Ord 08- 19, to eliminate any proposed amendment to Ch. 9, section 41A of the Twp. Code and adopt such Ord as amended
- Cathy would like for the committee to share their VMOSA ideas then a subcommittee can refine everyone's ideas
 - o Ara built upon Ken's VMOSA idea, emphasized lower taxes
 - o Paul suggested a shorter vision statement and explained EDACs role
 - o Brief shuttle discussion, businesses proposing shuttles to mass transportation/ town centers
 - o Ken encourages everyone to share their ideas without a constraining factor- taxes
 - o Cathy would like to change Morris Township's reputation for not being friendly to business
 - o Cathy also suggested getting the public's opinion of what the mission should be, need active participation from the public
 - In reference to seeking public participation, based on her prior experience Kathy H pointed out we cannot put businesses through torture
 - Cathy has attended a few Community vision sessions, both informative and interactive
 - Brief discussion about traffic studies, spec. on County roads
 - o Ken suggested before reaching out to the community we should consider building rapport with Morristown
 - o Kathy V suggestion: the Committee should consider forming another committee to discuss some of their ideas – because the ideas thrown around have to do with the quality of life
 - o Brief traffic discussion/ Jason proposed: think big, identify issues, narrow it down, prioritize, and delegate some issues to bodies who can actually get it done.
- Paul expressed, the Committee should move forward and let a subcommittee finish the strategic plan considering they have enough material
- Liam volunteered to be a part of a business outreach subgroup; he was able to do some research after he received the CBRE broker's name from the old Jacob's building. Instead of hypothesizing, get the answers from the source; they know the trends and have the data.
- Lengthy discussion on subcommittee's and outreach. Also, on a motion duly made, seconded, and carried by the votes as indicated, the subcommittees were established.
- Cathy read off Paul's additional subcommittees to discuss / Ken advocates incorporating Surban into the strategic plan / Cathy mentioned Bell Works and how Holmdel had community involvement/ Mennen property overview/ new member dialogue/ ratable and misc. dialog. including sidewalks and Crum and Forester

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ADJOURNMENT

The May 6, 2019 meeting, with no further business, was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.; next to convene at 6:00 P.M., June 17, 2019 in the Municipal Building, 50 Woodland Avenue, Township of Morris.

Virginia Murphy
EDAC Secretary