

**MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 15, 2012**

The Regular Meeting of the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission was called to order by Chairperson Michael Kretschmer at 7:01PM in the Joe Pace Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex. Notice of this meeting was given as required by the annual notice of meetings.

Chairperson Michael Kretschmer led the Commission in the salute to our flag. Michael also introduced Linda Waters who would be taking the minutes. This substitution was approved by all.

ROLL CALL

Present: Christine Feggans, Victor Peters, Michael Kretschmer, Anthony (Tony) Langella, Jared Valdez, Cncl. Ron Garbowski, Aileen Wojciechowski

Absent: ShareneGinyard

Guests: Jason Painter, Tim Kernan, Don Kensey (late arrival)

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Chairperson Michael Kretschmer introduced Jason Painter from Astro Signto give the progress of the Welcome Signs. There is a change in the format and design, changing the sign to reflective metal. His concerns are the large size of the sign(now 72" wide) and the wind loads it would need to sustain. Jason explained the need for break-away posts and the mounting/attachment. He also showed samples of the Scotch-lite reflective colors available. He recommended using the Gold, Dark Blue and White as there was a good contrast between the colors and they were easily visible during both day and night. The cost for the signs may be less, depending on the installation site location. Jason suggested resubmitting the permit with the above changes before moving forward with the order and installation. Tony Langella suggested encumbering the funds from the 2012 budget for two (2) additional signs. Michael Kretschmer stated that we are only considering placing the signs on right away and not private property. The group also wished to remove the period after Come Grow With Us as well as changing to Township of Monroe instead of Monroe Township. Motion to approve new design: Tony Langella, 2nd Christine Feggans. Majority approved-Tony, Christine, Vic, Aileen and Michael voted YEA, Jared abstained requesting to see new artwork with the proposed changes before making his decision. Mr. Garbowski requested that Jason send new artwork via email to Katherine from ARH. Jason was asked to attend the November 19, 2012 meeting to obtain approvals.

Michael Kretschmerintroduced Tim Kernan, Planner for Township of Monroe. Mr. Kernan recapped the Master Plan for the Township, including items from 2004 to present. Also discussed were future development plans for the Township, both residential and commercial. Jared Valdez inquired about the Township's plans for Main Street. Mr. Kernan stated that the Township has no specific plan for Main Street, either residential or commercial. Jared Valdez asked for his professional opinion as to what should be done with Main Street. Mr. Kernan recommended that the EDC seek Main Street New Jersey designation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Michael Kretschmer asked if all present had the opportunity to review the September 2012 meeting minutes. A copy was passed around and a brief discussion of the minutes occurred. Tony Langella made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Economic Development Commission Meeting of September 17, 2012. The motion was made by Jared Valdez, second by Vic Peters. The minutes were approved as corrected by all remaining members of the Commission in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

Ron Garbowski stated that Chris Rehmann would be attending the November 19, 2012 meeting. Mr. Garbowski suggested that we speak with Mr. Rehmannas he is involved with the Hammonton Main Street program.

Michael Kretschmer reminded the group that the next Business Association meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2012 at 7pm at the Monroe Township Library. He asked for volunteers to visit businesses prior to the meeting in

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order to get more owners to attend. Tony Langella, Michael Kretschmer and Christine Feggans agreed to visit businesses on Friday, October 19th at 1pm. All three also agreed to attend the Business Association Meeting.

New Business-

Mr. Garbowski has secured a new Secretary for the EDC. She will be available starting in November.

Michael Kretschmer wants to schedule another Call to Service Forum for November 8, 2012. Walt Bryson was scheduled to attend. Aileen Wojciechowski suggested waiting until the Township reorganization which happens in January 2013, as the groups are not sure what positions need to be filled in November. Michael Kretschmer will contact Felix from Call to Service to have the meeting rescheduled.

ROUNDTABLE

~Tony – is pleased with what the group has accomplished. He feels we need the signs completed right away. He is glad that the Business Association meetings have had a great turn out.

~Jared – would like to see the website updated and forms available online for businesses. He will provide a list suggesting what he feels needs to be changed.

~Christine – felt Mr. Kernan's presentation was excellent and realizes that we will be bombarded with developments, that homework needs to be done and feels the Business Association will help.

~Vic– no matters to discuss but agrees that Main Street has gone downhill since 1975.

~Aileen-would like to speak with another town's EDC in order to share information and ideas.

~Michael-felt that he already brought up matters he wished to discuss and thanked Don Hensey for attending.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairperson Michael Kretschmer asked for a motion to adjourn. Jared Valdez made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission Meeting of October 15, 2012. The motion was seconded by Tony Langella; all in favor. Meeting adjourned shortly after 9pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda C. Waters, Guest/Volunteer

Economic Development Commission Minutes (cont'd) October 15, 2012

The next scheduled Monroe Township Economic Development Commission meeting is Monday, November 19, 2012 at 7:00pm.

These minutes were prepared from notes taken during the proceedings of the Regular Economic Development Commission Meeting of October 15, 2012 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.

Approved as submitted _____ Date _____

Approved as corrected _____ Date _____