

Economic Development Committee

Borough of Hawthorne, New Jersey

Municipal Building

445 Lafayette Avenue

Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Meeting Minutes: September 8, 2010

Attendance:

Carl Schmidt, Chairman	Present
Frank Coppola	Absent
Daniel Dailey	Present
Evangeline Gomez	Present
Anthony Spanedda	Present
Victor Terraglia	Present
Councilman John Lane, Council & Chamber Rep	Present
Mayor Richard Goldberg (optional)	Absent

Agenda Items:

1. VRA Train Station Status:

Tony Spanedda collected the EDC member checks for the Volunteer Railroaders Association pavers and proposed the paver inscription, which was approved by the EDC. Tony will send the checks and paver inscription to the VRA.

2. Downtown Revitalization:

- a. New Grant Opportunities – Carl Schmidt, John Lane and Tony Spanedda reported on the Transit Village progress. A meeting with NJ Transit representatives Vivian Baker and John Del Colle was held on August 30th followed by a tour of the central business district and visit to the Main Line Station area. Vivian Baker provided valuable and supportive information regarding planning considerations and sources of state and federal resources to assist Hawthorne. A meeting was held on September 1st with the Passaic County Planning Department representatives Michael La Place, Jennifer Gonzales, Michael Lysicatos, and Kevin Cwallna. Vivian Baker and John Del Colle also attended the meeting. The outcome of the meeting was that the county planning department will engage in planning work for Hawthorne. Subsequent meetings will be scheduled to begin the actual planning work.
- b. Sign Ordinance – Victor Terraglia provided the EDC with an initial set of proposed revisions to the borough's draft sign ordinance. Victor recommended that the EDC schedule a dedicated work session for the committee to review his proposed revisions, the borough's draft ordinance, and neighboring municipal sign ordinances so that a full set of committee recommendations can be developed. Carl Schmidt will schedule the meeting.

3. Vacant Property Sub-committee

- a. Shopper Survey – Evangeline Gomez and Dan Dailey reported on the survey status. The survey announcement has been posted on the borough’s public access channels and the borough’s web site. Local newspapers have provided press announcements. Survey copies and drop boxes are located at the municipal building, library and post office. EDC survey canvassers will be present at the weekly Chamber of Commerce Farmer’s Market during September and at the Hawthorne Day celebration on October 2nd. Evangeline will send out an email to EDC members with a sign up sheet to provide coverage at the farmer’s market.
4. New Business - New Development Design Review: John Lane led discussion on re-instituting the EDC design review process as the first step for new development projects being proposed to the borough. The committee agreed with John’s recommendation. John will discuss with the Mayor and the recommendation will be voted on at the next EDC meeting.

CJ Schmidt 9-10-2010