

Economic Development Committee
 Borough of Hawthorne, New Jersey
 Municipal Building
 445 Lafayette Avenue
 Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506

Meeting Minutes: January 20, 2010

Attendance:

John Lane, Chairman	Present
Frank Coppola	Absent
Daniel Dailey	Present
Evangeline Gomez	Present
Anthony Spanedda	Present
Carl Schmidt	Present
Victor Terraglia	Absent
Mayor Goldberg (optional)	Present

Agenda items:

1. **Introduction of new members:**
 Dan Dailey, Evangeline Gomez
2. **Review of Mission Statement:**
 John Lane distributed and reviewed the committee's existing mission statement. John requested that all members review the mission statement and submit any revisions as appropriate for the next committee meeting. Carl Schmidt will also draft a charter statement for review at the next committee meeting.
3. **Goals for 2010:**
 Committee members discussed numerous goals including an emphasis on attracting new business to Hawthorne; development of recommended ordinance changes to enhance the business attractiveness of Hawthorne; and completion of the streetscape, pocket park and train station improvements to the Lafayette Ave and Diamond Bridge Ave business area. In regard to ordinance changes, John Lane distributed copies of Glen Rock's ordinances pertaining to license applications and signage. All committee members are requested to review these ordinances for applicability to Hawthorne by the next committee meeting.
4. **Train station lease:**
 John Lane distributed copies of the draft train station lease agreement between the lessee, Volunteer Railroaders Association (VRA), and the NY Susquehanna & Western Railway. The VRA has asked the EDC to review and comment on changes to the lease, if any, that Hawthorne would like to have incorporated. Mayor Goldberg reported that the Borough Attorney is presently reviewing the lease agreement. Carl Schmidt reported on the status of the VRA plans for the station. The VRA anticipates that the lease agreement will be finalized and signed by the beginning of spring and construction will begin as soon as possible thereafter. The VRA will coordinate all streetscape plans with the EDC.
5. **Streetscape grant:**
 Hawthorne will reapply in 2010 for the streetscape grant that was denied in 2009.

6. **Vacant properties:**

Tony Spanedda reported on a list of vacant properties in the borough. Committee members discussed potential actions that the EDC can take to attract new business and how to coordinate actions with the Chamber of Commerce and the Passaic County Department of Economic Development. Tony Spanedda and Carl Schmidt will further categorize the vacant properties list and also contact Deborah Hoffman, Director of the Passaic County Department of Economic Development to discuss coordination of economic development actions. John Lane will discuss same with the Chamber of Commerce.

7. **Chamber of Commerce liaison:**

John Lane will serve as the liaison with the Chamber of Commerce and will develop a questionnaire to define the actions that can be jointly coordinated with the Chamber to attract new business.

8. **Diamond Bridge and Lafayette Ave business area streetscape plans:**

Jon Lane reviewed the plans and drawings that were drafted in 2009 with the new committee members.

9. **Plans and events to enhance the community:**

John Lane reviewed current plans and solicited additional suggestions for follow on meetings.

10. **Pyrolac and Pan Chemical status:**

Mayor Goldberg reported that Stage 1 of the Pyrolac remediation process has started to determine the extent of contamination and potential grants for remediation are being investigated.

Mayor Goldberg reported that NJ Transit is committed to leasing the Pan Chemical property for a NJ Transit parking facility and that NJ Transit has presented plans for same to Senator John Girgenti, Mayor Goldberg and selected Borough Council members.

11. **Kohl's Department Store status:**

Mayor Goldberg reported that he has held intermediary meetings with the Kohl's representative and the property owner with the objective of reopening lease negotiations and to also explore potential economic incentives at various government levels.

Non-agenda items:

None.

CJ Schmidt 1-22-2010