Doylestown Borough Economic Development Advisory Board

February 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The Economic Development Advisory Board met in Council Chambers in Doylestown Borough Hall on the above date at 5:00 pm. The following Board members were present: Patricia Keppler, Heather Mahaley, Lois Opdyke and Vice Chairperson Kim Stever. Also in attendance were John Davis, Borough Manager, Mayor Ron Strouse and Councilman Don Berk. Absent was Chairperson Otto Mills, Rick Brown, Barbara Healy, Rick Lyons and Discover Doylestown liaison Nerice Kendter.

1. The Economic Development Advisory Board did not have a quorum in attendance, therefore the minutes from the November 9, 2017 meeting and the minutes from the January 11, 2018 meeting were not approved.

2. Mayor's Report - Ron Strouse

Discover Doylestown Meeting Update:

Mayor Strouse attends the meetings that are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 9:00 am. The February 7, 2018 was canceled due to inclement weather.

The Book Fair scheduled for October is a Discover Doylestown project.

The dreidel will be rebuilt for the 2018 holiday season.

Doylestown Public Works will handle the borough Christmas tree.

Discover Doylestown members will remove the holiday snowflakes and carefully store them.

Discover Doylestown would like to host a public meeting to discuss 2018 holiday planning.

3. Borough Council Report - Don Berk - No Report

4. Vacancy Report- John Davis

The vacancy report was reviewed and there were no new properties added.

The County Theater is going to apply for a grant for the expansion project of the building.

5. SWOT Analysis - Kim Stever

Swot weaknesses were discussed. It was decided to focus on three weaknesses to review for the March 8, 2018 meeting. Those weaknesses are as follows:

Parking- need to redefine it, analyze evening parking needs and to reach out to Discover Doylestown for their customer's feedback on parking.

Retail Mix – Retail in general is weak and ways to attract new business to town.

Office Space – current office space in the borough is considered a weakness, in part, due to the configuration and limited square footage in the older buildings.

6. Old/New Business

A request was made to call or email John if unable to attend the board meeting.

7. Adjournment- Economic Development Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 6.25 pm.

Submitted by Janet Hedrick