

Doylestown Borough Economic Development Advisory Board

October 11, 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: Chairperson, Otto Mills, Rick Brown, Patricia Keppler, Heather Mahaley and Lois Opdyke. Also in attendance were John Davis, Borough Manager, Mayor Ron Strouse, Councilman Don Berk and Jake Moyer, from Discover Doylestown. Absent were Barbara Healy and Rick Lyons.

1. **September 13, 2018** meeting minutes were unanimously approved. (Pat Keppler and Heather Mahaley)
2. **Discover Doylestown- Mayor Ron Strouse and Jake Moyer, Discover Doylestown**
Discover Doylestown is promoting more community involvement. As of 2019, there will be 15 active board members. Discover Doylestown will remain in their current building for the next five years. Upcoming events include a community cleanup day on Sunday, October 21, the Spooktacular and Witches Ride through town on Saturday, October 27, and the Holiday Parade with Santa Claus coming to town on Friday, November 23. A new Dreidel is under construction and will be dedicated on December 9, 2018.
3. **2018 Mayor's Stewardship Award- Rick Brown**
Four properties were nominated and reviewed. The winner of the 2018 Mayor's Stewardship Award is the Fitzgerald property at 67 N. Broad Street. The award will be given to the Fitzgerald's at the November 19, 2018 Borough Council meeting. Prior to the Council meeting, Mayor Strouse will contact the Fitzgerald's to request photos and a description of the work that was done. It was suggested that the architect and builder be invited to attend the award ceremony.
4. **Vice Chairperson and Board Vacancies – Otto Mills**
By year end we should determine the number of board vacancies and advertise the openings for the Economic Development Advisory Board. Otto asked if anyone would be interested in serving as the Vice Chairperson for the board. Rick Brown nominated Lois Opdyke for Vice Chairperson and she accepted, with the understanding that there may be times that she would not be able to make it promptly at 5:00 p.m., but shortly thereafter.
5. **2019 Goals for the Economic Development Advisory Board**
A list of goals from 2016 was given to members for review. Many of those goals have been reached while others are still ongoing.
 - There is still a need for a Visitor's Center in town.
 - Mayor Strouse will meet with members of the Bucks County Visitor's Bureau. The group is interested in visiting new businesses and unusual attractions in town. Mayor Strouse feels that it is important for the Bucks County Visitor's Bureau to visit Doylestown on a yearly basis in order to show visitors what Doylestown has to offer.
 - Economic Development Advisory Board members should review the 2016 goals and email John Davis with their ideas/ suggestions for 2019 goals.
6. **Borough Council Report – Councilman Don Berk**
There will be a Celebration of Pride held in June 2019. Council will organize a task force to look at celebration options. The first meeting will be held on November 14, 2018 at 6:00p.m. Meetings will take place once a month. Council would appreciate having a member of the Economic Development Advisory Board in attendance. If interested, please email John Davis.
7. **Mayor's Report – No Report**

8. **Vacancy Report – John Davis**

- County Theater Update- Fundraising has reached over two million dollars. Construction should begin by late 2019.
- Fabby Shabby has moved to a larger location on S. Main Street.
- Donegal Jewelers is moving to E. State Street.
- A clothing/home store is moving into one of the vacant BonTon stores in the Doylestown shopping center. This may be a “Pop-Up” store just for the holidays.
- Ten new townhomes will be built on W. Ashland Street.
- Still waiting for plans to be submitted for the VIP parking deck;

9. **Adjournment –**

The Economic Development Advisory Board was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Submitted by Janet Hedrick