

Doylestown Borough Economic Development Advisory Board

October 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The Economic Development Advisory Board met in the Council Chambers in Doylestown Borough Hall on the above date at 5:15 pm. The following Board members were present: Chairperson, Otto Mills, Vice Chairperson, Lois Opdyke, Rick Brown, Brian Guerriero, Patricia Keppler, Rick Lyons, Heather Mahaley and John West. Also in attendance were Borough Manager John Davis, Mayor Ron Strouse, Councilperson Don Berk and Beth Ann Rinkus, representing the Mercer Museum.

1. **Approval of Minutes-**

September 12, 2019 minutes were approved (Pat Keppler and Heather Mahaley)

2. **Mayor's Stewardship Award- Mayor Ron Strouse**

Currently there are three applications for consideration. HARB has approved the projects and will make their recommendation after a scheduled walk around later this month. The Economic Development Advisory Board has tentatively scheduled a walk around on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 5:15 pm. Those who are able to attend should meet in the rear parking lot of the borough office building. More information will follow regarding the meeting location and the route the group will take.

3. **Focus Group Discussion:**

John Davis pointed out that residents are more receptive to surveys and we are getting more responses than in the past.

Some suggested topics to build on are:

- Staycation during the summer
- Block Parties
- Community Dinners
- Beginning of summer parties
- Provide the public with information on the new parking deck when it is completed.
- Better communication with merchants

John will email EDAB members a parking survey from several years ago so they may review the content. The question came up as to whether Discover Doylestown, along with their contact information, should be included in a survey.

4. **Vacancy Report – John Davis**

Several large projects are underway. Work has started on the Wawa project on S. Main Street. On October 22, 2019 the Worth property at 50 N. Main Street will go before the Planning Commission. On November 26, 2019, 333 N Broad Street, the former Intelligencer building, will go before the Planning Commission. A tentative date of October 31, 2019 was given as the date Penn DOT will vacate their building on N. Broad Street. The remaining properties on the vacancy report were reviewed with the board.

5. **Borough Council Report- Don Berk- No Report**

6. **Mayor's Report- Ron Strouse- No Report**

7. **Old/New Business**

The annual Economic Development Advisory Board holiday gathering will take place at the Doylestown Country Club on Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 5:00 pm. This is in lieu of the regularly scheduled board meeting. Lois Opdyke will handle the particulars and will let us know at the next meeting.

8. **Adjournment-** the October 10, 2019 Economic Development Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.