

BOROUGH OF DOYLESTOWN
Economic Development Advisory Board

Thursday, 01/12/2023 – 5:00 pm
Borough Hall, 10 Doyle Street, Doylestown, PA 18901

Attendance: Otto Mills, Lois Opdyke, Heather Mahaley, Rick Brown, Jason Wood, Kris Boger, Donna Rhodes, Marjan Shirzad, Mayor Noni West, and Borough Manager John Davis.

Approval of Minutes. The November meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Mayor's Stewardship Award. Otto suggested putting together a protocol for moving through the process each year, and the group agreed. Lois will come up with a timeline for the next meeting.

Board Goals/Comprehensive Plan Updates. Heather explained the survey results have been compiled, and John provided the website information to the Board to review. Noni and the Board reviewed some of the key takeaways from the survey information. The next steps with the Comprehensive Plan include taking the survey results and building on those issues that are most important to Borough residents and looking further into how best to address them. Comprehensive plan workshops are planned for the next several months.

Discover Doylestown Report. Kris noted Arts Festival applications have been coming in at a high rate. The 30th annual 5K application is also open, with those coming in as well. All of the permits for the annual events have been submitted, including Pride Festival, Book Festival and others. Fundraising event planning is still in the early stages for the year.

Doylestown Cultural District Report. Marjan provided a report on the museums, with an approximate 15% increase in visitation from last year. There are many cultural events and collaborations with other nonprofits in the downtown district planned for the coming year.

Doylestown Historical Society. Donna shared information on the recent toy exhibit. Currently, a collaboration with Doylestown Health is in the works on nurse caps and pins of the past. A rebranding program is under way, including a new logo. The new look is being launched in 2023.

Vacancy Report. John reviewed several vacant properties and new businesses coming to the Borough.

DART Report. Kris reviewed the decreased ridership in the area as well as the State. DART is trying to run more routes to connect Warrington to Chalfont, with the hope of increasing riders.

Mayor's Report. Noni reported a main focus of the Council currently is the Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, there are several open positions on various Boards and Commissions to be decided.

Old/New Business. None.

Meeting adjourned 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kramer
Minutes Secretary