

**Economic Development Advisory Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 12, 2023 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Otto Mills, Heather Mahaley, Lois Opdyke, Jason Wood, Marjan Shirzad of the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle, Aisling Lavery of the Michener Art Museum, Recreation Director and Special Events Coordinator Caitlin Hernandez, and Borough Manager John Davis. Also in attendance was the Junior Council Person, Jack Swartley.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

**Approval of Minutes** – Approved as submitted.

**Comprehensive Plan Update** – There have been several meetings with the Borough Planning Commission and the County Planning Commission since the last EDAB meeting. Communication, education, and preservation are all topics that have been discussed. Economic Development and parking were also discussed. The next meeting will begin the process of narrowing down the ideas that have been brought forward.

**Discover Doylestown Project** - None

**Doylestown Cultural District Report** – Cocktails at the Castle, the largest fundraiser of the year at the Mercer Museum will take place this weekend. Admissions are doing well, with the double-digit attendance increase still holding, year to date. There is a new exhibit opening in partnership with the VIA, called “The Dusty Roads to Doylestown,” honoring the founding mothers of the VIA. It will continue through the end of the year.

The Christmas Tree exhibit will be returning to Fonthill again this coming season.

The Michener Museum also has had an increase in attendance. There are several exhibitions currently running.

**Doylestown Historical Society Report** - None

**Social Media Report** - Caitlin provided the Board with our numbers and comparisons to other similarly sized municipalities in the area. We are close to industry standards in our reach to various demographics. Our engagement has increased across all social media channels.

**Economic Development Report** – Caitlin provided the vacancy report to the Board and updated the Board on new businesses in town.

**DART Report** - None

**Mayor’s Report** - None

**Old/New Business** – Regarding the holiday celebration for the EDAB, the country club is undergoing renovations and the Founder’s room is currently unavailable. Upstairs at Paganini’s may be a viable alternative or the separate room at Villa Capri. Loie will investigate.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Erika Fellman  
Economic Development Advisory Board  
Minutes Secretary