

Upper Mount Bethel Economic Development Committee Monthly Meeting

Minutes Report September 28, 2017

1. Review and approval of prior month meeting minutes. Approved with one correction.
2. Introductions by EDC members to visiting Portland Borough Representatives.
3. Scott Cole gives summary of current EDC activities: Lerta planning-industrial focus initially. 5 School board members are needed to approve the Lerta plan.
4. Grant funding available for Lerta planning expenses.
5. Portland Representatives introduced themselves as: Lance Prator, Mayor; Stephanie Steele, Council President; Lisa Prator, Councilman; Yvonne Gunaer, Councilman themselves.
6. Discussion by Mr. Prator of possible overlapping objectives and goals. Water, Sewer. Water extension to middle village relatively easy. Sewer requires 537 plan, deal with the rivers keepers, PUC rules and membership, no sewer authority. Business structure for extending Portland Sewer service: "Retail" service by Portland or "export" bulk service to Mt Bethel to service on the "retail" level.
7. 537 Plan underway according to Rick Fisher. Carroll Engineering is on the job now. Pine Tree lane being taken back by township. TIFF "Tax incentive program" also mentioned as an option.
8. Bangor Area School district (IDA) has an economic development committee with \$10,000 fund account for it's activities. Scott Cole has had some preliminarily discussion with Jeff Mancy from the committee.
9. Joint EDC committee option discussed. Consensus decisions with varying majorities and voting options. Zoning changes adjacent to other boroughs would benefit from joint planning, as an example of a benefit. COG is working on a regional comprehensive plan.
10. A large developer such as a Calahari Resort would require minimum infrastructure to include Gas, Water, Sewer, Police and Ambulance.
11. Lerta proposal for I-1, I-2, I-3. Hearing with Mullins and Lonergan. Normal meeting on Sept 23rd. Hearing on the Oct 30 at 6pm. Open for testimony by public or EDC members.
12. October meet and Greet venue TK's or Tuscarora. Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce may have a list of venues. Week of Nov. 12-18th? Nov 11th UMBT Fire Hall is available and reserved.
13. CIPP grant will be approved and finalized in the Oct. County Council Meeting. Notice given to us by Michael Brett of Tim Herlingers office.
14. Mullers and Lonigan offered to attend our meeting and inform us of LERTA application
15. Kulicke suggested a wall chart with all the Acronym organizations in the area along with the full names and simple descriptions.
16. Supervisor David Due presented **The Slate Belt Aquaculture and Environmental Research Association:**
Non profit.

Education, Trail walking and everything not including the Aquarium. Aquacultural and Farming facilities. Northampton County, Northern Tier trail overlaps the same railroad tracks. Using Streets for trails or private property. There is also a rivaling Easton Aquarium on 3.5 acres. (\$130 million), Calahari spending \$400 million on their Aquarium with Ripleys. Baltimore, Camden, Cody Island, Pittsburg. Chatanooga Aquarium is a model for Eastons aquarium.

Local Capitol Plaza in Washington Township is the location for a possible proposed Aquarium on 100 acres. Fish Hatchery is located near Lake Minsi and pumps 700,000 gallons, permitted up to 1 million gallons of water per day. Proposed trail from Portland to Mt Bethel (Eastern Industries) Park toward Johnsonville to Lake Minsi. Nestles Fish Hatchery facility would be an educational facility.

17. Old business

18. Public Comment

By Michael Kulicke, Secretary