

**Upper Mt. Bethel Economic Development
Committee Monthly Meeting
Minutes
March 23, 2023**

Attendees: Scott Cole
Anthony DeFranco
Geoffrey Deen
Ray Higgins
Ed Nelson
Augie Percoco

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. After the Pledge of Allegiance, a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda was made and seconded. The Minutes of the February Meeting were reviewed and approved.

The first order of business was to plan for the April, 2023 EDC meeting which will be a Meet and Greet meeting with some local business owners and some prospective new businesses. This meeting will be hosted on May 2, 2023. We will also invite some of the prominent state leaders to meet with the group. Lisa Boscola, Susan Wild and Ann Flood will be among the invitees.

Ed Nelson shared a presentation that he made to the Northampton LERTA. He summarized the breakdown of UMBT acreage and explained the land use as well as the amount of acreage that is taxable. In summary, UMBT is comprised of 28,160 acres. Approximately 65% of the total township acreage is enrolled in Act 319, Act 4/149 and Act 519 that provides for a reduced tax rate. About 16% of the land is listed as Federal, State, County and Township land which is tax exempt. Approximately 16% of the total acreage pays the full tax rate. The remaining 3% is the Riverpointe Logistics site. It was noted that upon completion Riverpointe will provide the Township with an additional \$1.2 million in tax revenue.

A discussion was held regarding the amount of support the Committee receives from John Bermeningham who serves as the EDC Liaison. It was concluded that his involvement is minimal and a motion was made to replace him. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimously approved.

The final order of business was to respond to Cindy Beck's request for articles for the Spring Newsletter. It was agreed that the Committee would discuss it during the following week and provide her with our collective thoughts.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.