

## **Borough of Berlin Economic Development Committee Minutes**

**March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Call to Order: 7:30**

**Flag Salute:**

**Roll Call:**

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Drew Straub</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Carl Canfield</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Kevin McHugh</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>James Knight</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Bob Suchowierski</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Roger Strong</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Bob Foster</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Casey Buchanan</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Member</b>	<b>Mike Latigona</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alt.</b>	<b>Carole Vitiello</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alt.</b>	<b>Stephanie Spancake</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Alt.</b>	<b>Patricia Cummings</b>	<b>Present</b>

**9 Members Present**

**Minutes of Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**A motion to approve the minutes from Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 was made by Bob Suchowierski, and seconded by Mike Latigona. Motion carried with 8 yea's and 1 abstain from Patricia Cummings who was not at the last meeting.**

**A discussion of a Vice-Chairperson resulted in a Motion made by Bob Foster, seconded by Bob Suchowierski that Carl Canfield be made Vice Chairman of the Committee. Motion carried with 8 yea's and one Abstain from Carl Canfield.**

## **Discussion:**

**A brief discussion of moving the time of the meetings was quickly resolved to remain at 7:30, however public notices should be updated to reflect the change in time made over a year ago.**

**The budget was discussed which led into the role of the activities subcommittee. It was agreed that our role is not for community activities but for the concerns of the business community. Ie Funding sources, Job fairs, etc.**

**A report from Bob Foster on the Business Association event and upcoming events led us to piggy back on the above delineation of the Economic Development Committee and organizations like the Business Association.**

## **Subcommittee Reports:**

**Networking: The Networking report was, for the most part, provided by Bob Foster as well as Drew Straub.**

**Property: Mike Latigona provided a property detail report on all commercial properties in the Borough. Bob Suchowierski will merge this data into the info he compiled a couple of years ago and provide an updated list. At that point, we can focus in on vacant properties and create a list for public access via the web.**

**Social Media: Drew Straub provided the bulk of the Social Media report with the understanding that Carl Canfield will be the subcommittee chair. Discussion of a Borough-wide Social Media policy will be taken under advisement by the Council with guidance from the Solicitor. Once passed, this policy will be applicable to all government Social Media outlets. Until then, we will maintain our level of prudent behavior but will, in time, use the committee's Social Media presence to promote the vacant properties with a spotlight rotation that will click through to the overall list.**

**Budget: Was mentioned above**

**Activities:** Mentioned above and recommended by Roger (via email) that Mike Latigona would make a good chair for this committee.

**Welcome:** No report given.

After a thorough discussion of the limitations of the committee and the various obstacles we continue to face, for the harmony of the committee as well as for each of us to gain a new perspective, Drew Straub proposed a Big-Little solution based on Greek Life of college Fraternities/Sororities. Each Big-Little will meet privately to learn more from each other.

With the various tasks associated with the committee, the subcommittee format will continue.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Stephanie Spancake to adjourn the meeting, and seconded by Bob Suchowierski. Unanimous Voice Vote (UVV). 8:42.