

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, June 13, 2017

The following are the minutes of the Growth & Redevelopment Committee meeting, which was held on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lawrence Township Municipal Building, Lower Level Conference Room.

**Statement of Adequate Notice:**

Adequate notice of the regular meeting of the Lawrence Township Growth & Redevelopment Committee has been provided by filing an annual meeting schedule with the Municipal Clerk and by filing the agenda with the Municipal Clerk, posting prominently in the Municipal Building and mailing to the Trenton Times and the Trentonian.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Lovette Love-Stevens  
Tushar Patel  
Charles Lavine  
John Conroy  
Maria Connolly  
Teresita Bastides-Heron  
John Odalen  
Peter Ferrone

Absent: Danielle Delprato  
Max Ramos, Committee of Education Liaison

Excused Absence: Ryan Kennedy  
Joan Brame

Also Present: Christopher Bobbitt, Council Liaison  
Andrew Link, Liaison  
Susan Snook, Secretary  
Pamela Mount

**Minutes:**

The May 9, 2017 minutes were unanimously approved.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Awards Ceremony:**

Revision to Nomination Form:

Vice Chairperson Odalen handed out a current and proposed description of the award ceremony descriptions, copy attached, and stated at the last meeting the members spoke about modifying the descriptions or making them a little bit more clear on who could be nominated. The handout has the old description and the proposed new description. Vice Chairperson Odalen went through each of the descriptions. The Committee discussed each of the categories, made recommendations and agreed to the changes.

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Page 2

Chairperson Conroy asked Mr. Link if this will be posted to the web site soon. Mr. Link responded that he will incorporate the changes and the press release and the nomination form and eventually the brochure; however, it has not been done yet. Mr. Link stated the next step is to get nominations from the public. Ms. Connolly commented to get the nomination form on the web site; Mr. Link stated it was on the web-site; however, he was not sure about Nixel and the e-mail.

Chairperson Conroy stated that somebody was securing the space and do that through the Chamber and he believes it is Heather from the Chamber. It was stated that the awards ceremony will be at Greenacres; and it was discussed to possibly have it hosted at Terhune Orchards in the barn. Mr. Lavine stated he would like to have it at a place that draws people, last year it was at the Boys & Girls Club and it did not draw the people, it was not set up right, you could not hear and he does not see that people would go up to the far north section of Lawrence because people want to get in and out to go back to work. Mr. Lavine's concerns are the logistics, turn out and the audio. Chairperson Conroy stated it is to recognize a business and the way to do that is to put the event in a business.

The Committee members stated Rider University has a problem with parking and food was not that great. A discussion was held about having it again at Terhune Orchards and there would be no charge for the hall; parking would not be a problem and it could hold the number of people. Chairperson Conroy stated he will reach out to the Chamber first.

Chairperson Conroy stated our new Township Manager, Kevin Nerwinski will be speaking at the ceremony because it will be a good opportunity for the Township and him.

**Committee Goals:**

Mr. Lavine commented that we have quorums for meetings which should be our goal. Chairperson Conroy stated that Mr. Link gave a handout on the vacancies for the Committee, copy attached. Ms. Mount make a suggestion that there is a business club at the high school and the Committee should reach out to get high school students on the Committee. Councilman Bobbitt will call Crystal, the Superintendent and she would know who to reach out to. Mr. Link read Resolution 126-11 adopted April 21, 2011 by the Council, copy attached, which basically states a student will be a liaison to the Committee. Chairperson Conroy stated there is a residential requirement, not an age restriction.

Mr. Link stated the term for the Committee is three years. Chairperson Conroy asked that the application form to join a committee be e-mailed to the Committee members. Ms. Connolly stated the link to the form should be on our web site, under Growth & Redevelopment. The page has not been updated since 2013 and the updated information should be sent to Mr. Link and he will forward the information to Yvette.

**Other Business:**

Ms. Mount spoke about media business and having something at her location sometime in September. The business community is the big part of the frustration here in Town not being able to get the message out on what they are doing. This Committee should work on the business community and get representatives to come to a meeting.

Ms. Bastides-Heron spoke about the Nature Center having a pilot program this summer from July 24 to 28, 2017. Family night is also at the Nature Center which will have programs on how to make soap; how to weave; study flowers; program for creating musical instruments; art classes and how to make bird nests. There will be story telling around the fire camp by Mr. Erdie who is a blacksmith and a mechanic.

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Page 3

Councilman Bobbitt stated there is one thing from the state, it is two bills, one in the Senate and one in the Assembly, about creating a liquor license liquor permit that the Township would have and is a yearly thing. It is for the smaller restaurants, so it can be a way of leveling the playing field. Liquor licenses are based on population and we are all out which raises the value of them. This would be something where it would only be table service, you can't have a bar area and would allow places in the Village and south Lawrence to be able to serve beer and wine. This would be a yearly permit and based on the square footage and part of the permit would go toward helping smaller businesses. This would help lower the value of those licenses.

Ms. Mount handed out some flyers, copies attached.

Chairperson Conroy stated that the meeting in August is when we vote on the Award winners.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Digital audio file of this meeting is available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan J. Snook  
Recording Secretary

Minutes approved: 7/11/17