

Meeting of Lindenhurst Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2015

Lindenhurst Village Hall

430 South Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst, NY

The meeting of the Lindenhurst Economic Development Committee was called to order at 6:05 PM on May 13, 2015 by Shawn Cullinane, Chairperson. A salute to the flag was led by Anthony Manetta.

Present

Shawn Cullinane, Chairperson

Marian Conway, Committee Member

Darrel Kost, Committee Member

Anthony Manetta, Committee Member

Robert Sweeney, Committee Member

Katherine McCaffrey, Secretary

Excused

Lance Walker, Committee Member

1. Motion by Darrel Kost, seconded by Anthony Manetta to accept the minutes of the March 18 Meeting. Approved. Committee Member Robert Sweeney abstained from the motion.
2. Comments from Gerard Giosa, Parking Consultant for Level G Associates, LLC
 - Worked with Islip on Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant. Also worked with Patchogue to develop parking strategies.
 - Mr. Giosa stated that the Village's price for parking meters is below the per hour average of 50¢. The low parking rate invites employees to park in front of stores during the day. Increasing the parking rate would discourage employees from parking on Wellwood Avenue.
 - \$1.00 an hour parking would help open up spaces on Wellwood Avenue. On street spaces should have 20% availability based on price of meter. The revenue from parking meters can be recycled back into the parking system. This can help to purchase property for more parking in order to improve the business district. Inform business owners of plan to recycle funds.
 - There is not enough branding of assets in the Village. There should be a family of signs that identify municipal lots, restrictions, and phone number for permits.
 - 47 spaces would be lost if diagonal parking was abandoned. If these spaces could be replaced by possibly combining the CVS lot with the Chase Bank lot the loss would be made up for.
 - Safety concerns with diagonal parking could be addressed by changing the angle at which the space is designed. An ideal angle would be 30°, but 45° would also sharpen sight. However, parking spaces would be lost by adjusting the angle. The safety issues can also be addressed through traffic calming.
 - Every \$1 spend on parking structure tends to have a return of \$6 to \$8 from private investment.

- Parking for housing complexes should be calculated on a one spot per unit basis. There are ways to craft ordinances so that some of the parking supply can be available to the public during development.
 - In order to increase efficiency of parking, businesses on opposite peak schedules should be paired together. For example, an office building paired with a theatre would be beneficial because an office's peak parking hours are during the day, where a theatre's peak parking would generally occur in the evening.
 - Trustee Maryann Weckerle asked how Mr. Giosa feels about parking lots directly on Main Street. Mr. Giosa responded by saying that it breaks up walkability; but having a piece of a parking lot visible or signage directing people into the parking lot would be better. Parking behind stores would be ideal, however.
 - New construction- podium parking would maximize space
 - The Committee thanked Mr. Giosa for his expertise and suggestions.
3. Update on Survey
- A deadline of May 31, 2015 was set.
 - A sample of responses was distributed to the committee
 - A report will be completed for the June meeting with all the data gathered from the survey.
4. Outreach to Community Groups
- Chairperson Cullinane informed the committee that he has attended the Business Improvement District's Annual Meeting, Lindenhurst Chamber of Commerce's Monthly Meeting and the Daniel Street Civic Association's Monthly Meeting and received feedback from community members regarding their concerns/comments in relation to the Downtown Business District.
5. Old Business
- Suffolk County IDA Assistance- Chairperson Cullinane stated that he and Mayor Brennan attended a meeting on May 6, 2015 with IDA officials. The Village has been put on a list for work to be done by the Regional Plan Association (RPA). David Sabatino, Associate Planner for RPA, was in attendance. He informed the committee that a draft project scope would be completed in order to determine what sort of changes need to be made in terms of redevelopment and revitalization in downtown Lindenhurst. In reference to Mr. Giosa's comments, Mr. Sabatino suggested that it would be beneficial to the downtown to connect the railroad parking lots. This would increase availability of parking to downtown visitors. This can be achieved safely through traffic calming and increased pedestrian safety (more crosswalks, better lighting, etc).
 - 2000 Suffolk County Downtown Economic Report- Chairperson Cullinane indicated that the County has expressed interest in updating the report, but not commitment has been made; it is possible that the County may want to create a new report instead of updating the existing one.
6. New Business
- Regional Economic Development Council Grant Workshop- the different types of available state grants were discussed. New York Main Street Grants including the Target Area Building Renovation Projects Grant, Technical Assistance Grant and Downtown Anchor Projects Grant may be a good fit for downtown Lindenhurst; however, the application deadline of July 31, 2015 may not be enough time to get a project in order.

7. The date for the next meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2015 at 6:00 PM. The location has not been determined. This meeting will include a presentation by Tri-Tec.
8. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM