

# Meeting of Lindenhurst Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes  
August 12, 2015  
Lindenhurst Village Hall  
430 South Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst, NY

The meeting of the Lindenhurst Economic Development Committee was called to order at 7:00 PM on August 12, 2015 by Shawn Cullinane, Chairperson. A salute to the flag was led by John Lisi.

## **Present**

Shawn Cullinane, Chairperson  
Marian Conway, Committee Member  
Darrel Kost, Committee Member  
Robert Sweeney, Committee Member  
Katherine McCaffrey, Secretary

## **Excused**

Anthony Manetta, Committee Member  
Lance Walker, Committee Member

1. Motion by Robert Sweeney, seconded by Chairperson Cullinane to accept the minutes of the June 24 Meeting with minor amendments to be made. Approved. Committee Members Marian Conway and Darrel Kost abstained from the motion.
2. Old Business
  - Suffolk County IDA Assistance – Chairperson Cullinane and the Mayor met with the Regional Plan Association (RPA) to go over their proposed timeline for the Village. It will be about an 8-9 month process. RPA also took a tour of the downtown. Chairperson Cullinane stated that it is a good thing to have an outside set of ears and eyes to come up with a vision for the downtown. RPA will work in conjunction with Suffolk County Department of Economic Development in order to avoid duplication of information.
  - 2000 Suffolk County Downtown Economic Report Update – Chairperson Cullinane and Committee Member Sweeney met with Suffolk County Planning Department to discuss the update to the report. It will be approximately a six month process that will focus on parking and occupancy issues, among other things. Committee Member Sweeney mentioned that in the 2000 report, it was stated that only 57% of available parking was utilized, despite a very vocal concern about lack of parking from residents. Committee Member Sweeney requested that a little extra time is spent on parking, not just to measure percentage used, but to examine more in-depth the parking situation. This will lead to more concrete suggestions as to how Village parking can be approved upon (i.e. more signage, different meters, better access, etc.). Chairperson Cullinane stated that the Village Board is currently looking at certain locations to purchase for more parking.
  - Survey – a draft copy of the survey results was given out to the Committee. A move to accept survey findings as final will happen at the next meeting.

- Downtown Inventory – An update of the downtown inventory was given to the Committee. It was noted that a copy of the inventory and the survey was given to RPA and Suffolk County Planning, as it may be useful to them. Chairperson Cullinane suggested that the names of building owners be added to the inventory; it may be helpful to understand their interest in our community and how it may or may not be the same as that of the residents and officials.
3. New Business
- Social Media – Committee Member Sweeney suggested that LEDC meetings be advertised through the use of social media and the Village’s website. This would help keep the community involved and informed about the Committee. Minutes of each meeting can be scanned and posted to the website as an easy means to convey information to the public. It may also be beneficial to create a narrative about the Committee (i.e. what has been done, future plans of the Committee, etc.). The use of social media may also help the community feel involved in the revitalization process. Sarah Lansdale of Suffolk County Planning mentioned the outreach work of Urban Planner Candy Chang as something that may be useful
  - Outreach to Business Owners – The Committee Members agreed that it would be beneficial to hear from business owners, as their opinions are valuable to the success of the downtown. It would be a good idea to see if the Chamber of Commerce or the Business Improvement District (B.I.D.) have tried reaching out to these organizations. Committee Member Kost stated that some business owners responded to the survey. Committee Member Sweeney advised that it may be best for the Chamber of Commerce to do this outreach themselves as to not be disrespectful to their organizations. This would provide a more formal and organized full range of opinions. Committee Member Conway agreed that outreach to business owners is a good idea. Chairperson Cullinane said that he would reach out to the Chamber and see what their ideas are based on this conversation. The possibility for creating a survey specifically for business owners was discussed. Committee Member Sweeney suggested that the B.I.D. take the lead on getting opinions from business owners.
  - Committee Member Kost discussed the possibility of getting hi-tech parking meters for the downtown. These meters go back to no time after the car leaves (even if there is remaining time), takes a picture of the vehicle if the time has expired and gives a 5-10 minute grace period for the person to put more money in the meter. This would be a good money income producer, as well as prevent employees parking in front of stores.
4. Questions/Comments from Community Members
- Resident commented that if there were to be an influx of cars on Wellwood Avenue, there would be more traffic on that road. There are not enough north/south running roads to eliminate some of the traffic on Wellwood Avenue. Resident suggest that a traffic study be done. Chairperson Cullinane replied that this can be looked into.
5. The date for the next meeting has not been scheduled.
6. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.