

Meeting of Lindenhurst Economic Development Committee

Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2015
Lindenhurst Village Hall
430 South Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst, NY

The meeting of the Lindenhurst Economic Development Committee was called to order at 6:03 PM on January 22nd, 2015 by Shawn Cullinane, Chairperson. A salute to the flag was led by Robert Sweeney

Present

Shawn Cullinane, Chairperson
Marian Conway, Committee Member
Darrel Kost, Committee Member
Anthony Manetta, Committee Member
Robert Sweeney, Committee Member
Lance Walker, Committee Member
Katherine McCaffrey, Secretary

1. Motion by Anthony Manetta, seconded by Darrel Kost to accept the minutes of the January 8th Meeting. Approved.
2. Comments by Village of Lindenhurst Mayor Thomas Brennan. The Mayor expressed his support for the committee and suggested a few things he would like to see happen in the downtown:
 - Parking behind the stores, particularly on South 1st Street and High Street
 - Old CVS building as a cultural center.
 - Housing close to the railroad station to bring young families to Lindenhurst.
 - Noted that local property owner John Bono created alternative access to stores on Wellwood Avenue by creating behind store walkways and beautified the area behind his stores as well.
 - Stated that he would like to see involvement from other groups such as the Chamber of Commerce, B.I.D. and the Babylon IDA.
3. Suffolk County Legislator Kevin McCaffrey also spoke about potential improvement to the Village's downtown area:
 - Focus should be on transportation oriented development.
 - Stressed the importance of development around the railroad.
 - Offered his assistance to the committee and suggested a request be made to the Suffolk County Planning and Development Committee to update the 2000 Suffolk County Downtown Economic Report.
4. Review of Proposed Survey
 - Anthony Manetta suggested that the survey be no longer than 25 questions
 - Distribution of the survey was discussed. Businesses should be able to distribute the survey, potential for Village funding to distribute survey as a mailing. It was agreed that the survey should be distributed in as many ways as possible.
 - It was discussed whether or not input from people that live outside of the Village should be included.
 - Rough draft to be completed by the next meeting.

5. Discussion of April 2000 Suffolk County Downtown Economic Report
 - The Committee would like to look into the possibility of updating this report.
 - Would the recommendations still be the same?
 - Robert Sweeney noted that the percentage of municipal parking that was not being utilized in the 2000 report was reported at about 41% and would like to look into why this parking was not being used?
6. Old Business
 - Downtown Inventory of Properties
 - Expand scope of inventory to include Hoffman Avenue west to South 5th Street and East to Pennsylvania Avenue. The Committee also suggested expanding further north on Wellwood Avenue to Fremont Street and south to Herbert Avenue.
 - Include Auburn Street and the Waldbaum's shopping center
 - Industrial areas outside the core downtown are areas for possible future review. This will potentially include Hoffman Avenue from Delaware to Strong.
7. New Business
 - Discussed possible re-branding of the Village.
 - The Chamber and B.I.D. should be involved in this process. It was suggested that these groups come to a meeting as speakers to discuss the work that is being done by the different groups.
8. Other
 - Mike Fallon agreed that re-branding the Village would be a good thing and would bring positivity back to the Village. Suggested that merchants who do not follow parking codes should be targeted.
 - Tom Dolan from the Babylon IDA offered his support to the committee
 - It was suggested by a resident that the committee speaks to business owners to see why they are unhappy with the current state of the Village downtown.
9. Next meeting scheduled for Thursday February 5, 2015 6:00 PM at Lindenhurst Village Hall.
10. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM