



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway
Fenwick Island DE 19944
302.539.3011 * Fax: 302.539.1305

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - MINUTES

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Members Present:

Gardner Bunting, Tim Collins, Kristi Maravalli, Diane Tingle, Alex Daly, Scott Mumford, Buzz Henifin, Merritt Burke and Pat Schuchman

***Absent:* Marc McFaul, Gabby Mancini, Julie Lee, Reid Tingle, Phil Craig**

***Public in Attendance:* Gene Langan, Virginia Childers-Davidson, Roy Williams, John Cordeaux, Richard Mais**

Flag Salute and Call to Order at 2:00 p.m.

Minutes:

Scott Mumford made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2015 meeting, seconded by Kristie Maravalli. Motion passed.

Items for Discussion:

Gardner Bunting opened the meeting by asking Merritt Burke to comment on last meeting's guest speaker, Diane Liard. Mr. Burke referred to the accomplishments of both the former AdHoc Parking Committee and the present Business Development Committee which included addressing the Town's parking issues, the bayside striping project which better defined allowable parking of bayside streets, a bid for seasonal shuttle service to alleviate parking problems, etc. The Business Development Committee further was instrumental in the amendment of the Sign ordinance as it pertained to flags, signs on businesses in subdivided buildings and freestanding A-frame signs as well as enlisting membership from the private and business sector.

Mr. Burke reviewed his application to the Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO) to become an affiliate of the Delaware Commercial District, an opportunity for the Town to plan for a vibrant commercial district. The Town Council approved a "Resolution Authorizing Participation in the DEDO Downtown Delaware Commercial District Affiliate Program" at the December 11, 2015 Town Council meeting. (A copy of this application and the Resolution are attached to these original minutes.)

The discussion continued on how to engage Town residents and visitors involvement. There was a huge interest among committee members on bringing more events to Town such as the successful Turkey Trot, Fenwick Freeze, Bonfire and movies on the beach during the summer months. Mr. Burke added there will be an Earth Day celebration on April 22nd which

would involve a community wide clean-up. He also mentioned the Holiday celebration on December 11th which hopefully would again become a yearly event.

The committee agreed to think of what type of events could be considered and bring those thoughts to the next meeting.

Mr. Bunting added that the Town's pole lights used for the holidays can be kept up since they are a nautical and not necessarily a holiday theme. He already has commitments from six or seven residents and business owners interested in donating to replace the lights since they are at least 22 years old.

The lights can be purchased now for a reduced rate of 30% or more since the holiday season has passed. The lights will be changed to all white lights year round. Diane Tingle asked that the Town Council discuss at its next meeting allowing the lights to remain up through the Spring and Summer and see how effective the lights are. Mr. Burke mentioned that the medians could also possibly have some sort of lighting.

Tim Collins asked Pat Schuchman what requests for commercial development has she had over the years that were turned down. Ms. Schuchman stated she would research and get back with an answer for the next meeting.

Richard Mais commented that the Planning Commission suggested parking in the rear of commercial businesses as a means to bring more exposure to businesses and which would also act to slow down traffic.

Next Meeting February 18, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Scott Mumford made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Alex Daly. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.