

Economic Business Development Meeting Minutes

January 24th, 2019

The first Economic Business Development Meeting (EBD) kicked off at approximately 7:03 PM by Council Chair Deana Gunn

Attendance:

(present)

Deana Gunn

Anthony Caltabilota

David Vergaretti

Jeremy Szoc

Brian Livesey

Jennifer Jordan

Alaina Acosta

Absent:

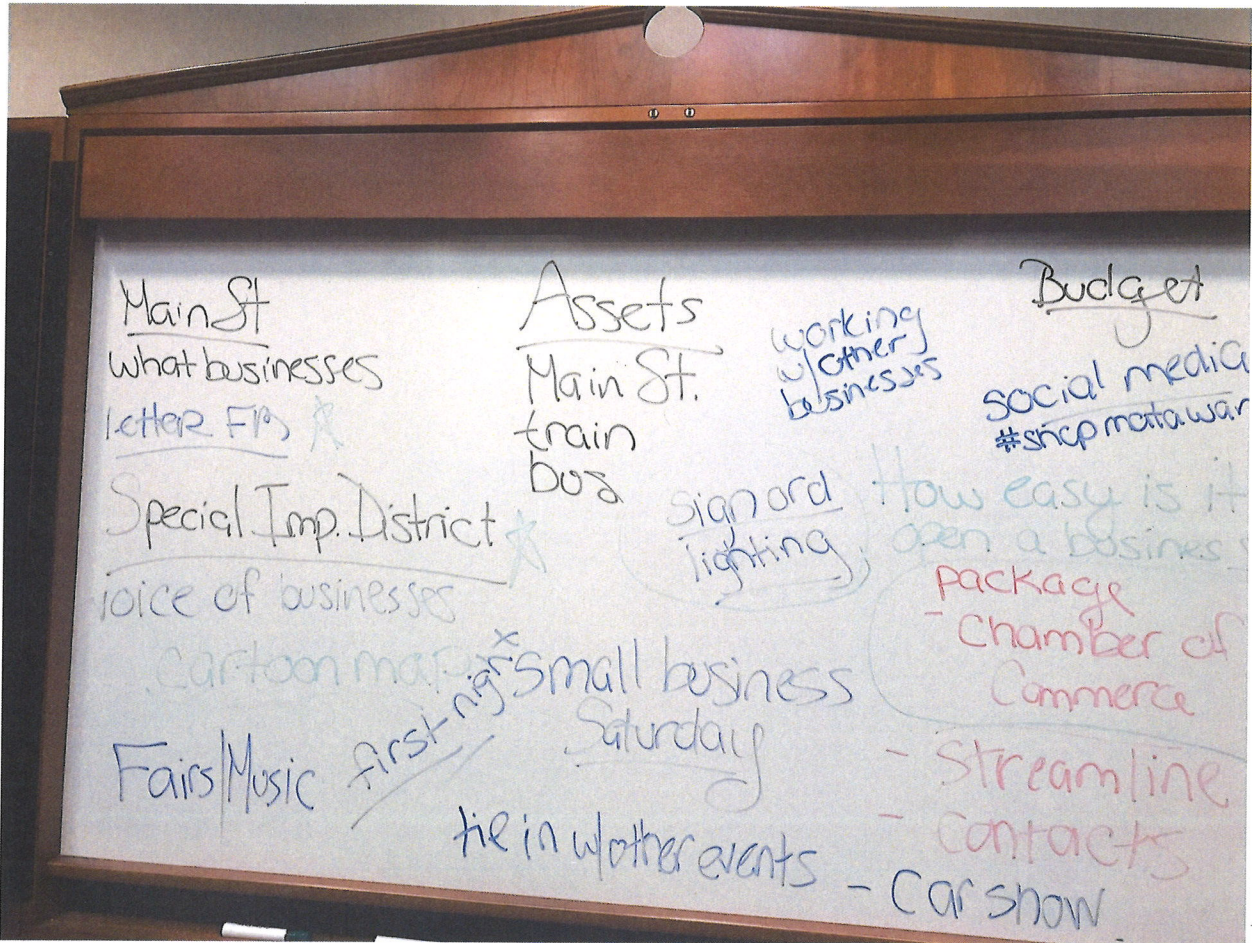
Brett Cannon

Amanda Vero

- ❖ The meeting started with Deana Gunn thanking everyone for attending and participating. Everyone in attendance then went around the room and introduced themselves.
- ❖ All in attendance then took the 'Oath of Office' and signed the document.
- ❖ We then had a white board brainstorming discussion of possible ideas for the EBD Commission to work on whether for this year or future endeavors. Attached are the ideas from our white board. The group agreed the biggest assets to Matawan are Main St. and accessibility to the bus and the train. Some ideas that were mentioned:
 - Sending a letter to the businesses and letting them know that the commission exists
 - Speaking to business owners as we frequent them and as the business owners network.
 - Special Improvement District

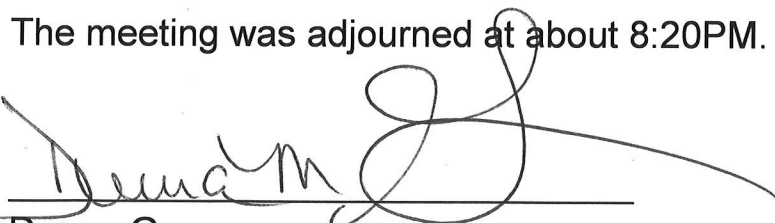
- Making sure businesses have a voice in decisions that impact them.
- Creating a 'cartoon style' map for the businesses and unique places in town such as the Burrowes Mansion, parks, train etc
- More fairs/music/car shows etc and tying businesses into other events around town.
- Participating in Small Business Saturday which falls on the same day as Matawan's annual Turkey Trot. Coordinating efforts and encourage people to walk to shop after running the race. Special discounts offered for that day only to patrons.
- Having businesses work together more with one another. Alaina mentioned this was an idea that she and the comic book store owners had discussed.
- There was feedback about the ease of opening a business in Matawan. The Commission would like to look at this process with the Borough as well as the Chamber and see if there are any opportunities to streamline it. The possibility of putting together a new business packet or folder was mentioned.

See White Board:



- ❖ Deana mentioned that if any members could not attend to please let her know as a quorum needs to be held. She also mentioned that an agenda would be sent prior to each meeting for review.
- ❖ Jennifer Jordan asked if we could speak to Keyport to see how they've made out with their downtown. Deana said she would see what she could find out.
- ❖ Brian Livesey agreed to look into the outside dining options and ordinances as they currently exist for Matawan.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:20PM.


 Deana Gunn