

GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
August 9, 2011

The following are the minutes of the Growth & Redevelopment Committee Meeting, which was held on Tuesday, August 9 2011, at 7:30 p.m., in the Lawrence Township Municipal Building, Lower Level Conference Room.

The meeting was held by Vice Chairperson Ryan Kennedy in the absence of Chairperson Bobbitt.

Statement of Proper Notice

Adequate notice of the regular meeting of the Lawrence Township Growth & Redevelopment Committee has been provided by filing an annual meeting schedule with the Municipal Clerk, and by filing the agenda with the Municipal Clerk, posting prominently in the Municipal Building, and mailing to the Trenton Times, the Trentonian and the Lawrence Ledger.

The roll was called as follows at 7:58 p.m.:

Present: Vice Chairperson Ryan Kennedy, Cami Granahan, Lovette Love-Stevens, Tushar Patel, Jags Vazirani, Charles Lavine, Donald Little

Excused Absence: Chairperson Christopher Bobbitt, Michael Marion, Karen Vincent-Lavanga

Absent: David Maffei, David Mizenko, Dennis Norton, William Zimmer, John Conroy, Kurt Koevenig, Michel Franc, Pamela Mount, Councilwoman, Bruce Nahan, Lawrence High School

Also Present: Andrew Link, Principal Planner/Business Advocate, Michael Powers, Council Liaison, Susan Snook, Secretary

The members introduced themselves to Reza Asgari, who is the owner of 2480 Route 1 Lawrenceville Land (Subs & Bites) located at 2480 Brunswick Pike. Mr. Asgari submitted an application to Council to become a member of the Growth & Redevelopment Committee.

Chairperson Kennedy stated that the majority of the meeting will be the discussion on the Awards Ceremony.

Approval of Minutes:

The July 12, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved.

New Business Welcome Effort:

Vice Chairperson Kennedy explained to Mr. Asgari about the Welcome Letter. The Growth & Redevelopment Committee would like to have a more formal welcome to the new businesses in the Township. Chairperson Bobbitt prepared a draft letter. Vice Chairperson Kennedy asked the members if they had any suggestions for the welcoming of a new business and getting our support. Vice Chairperson Kennedy suggested maybe a welcome visit. A question was asked to whom this letter would be written to and it was stated that it would be addressed to the business owner. An e-mail should be sent to Chairperson Bobbitt with any thoughts or suggestions.

Growth & Redevelopment Committee Minutes
August 9, 2011
Page 2

Mr. Vazirani asked if there are any inserts with the letter. Vice Chairperson Kennedy stated the Township used to have a guide book that has been in search for sponsors for a couple of years. It was stated that a packet would be good; but not sure what they would be. A question came up asking what information should be included in the guide book; an example was the Lawrence Card Program.

There were many suggestions on how to reach out to the new businesses. Councilman Powers suggested our web-site. The web site would answer questions on how to deal with construction; how to appear before the Planning Board and Zoning Board.

Mr. Link stated we used to hand out the folders with pockets in them filled with information that Bristol Myers Squibb paid for; that included little cards with facts and figures of population and tax rate.

A brief discussion about how the Committee needs to reach out to the new businesses. One suggestion was right after they obtain their Certificate of Occupancy; from the sheet from the Fire Marshal's Office. Mr. Vazirani asked about putting the businesses ads on the web site and a decision was made not to because then we would have to put everybody on the web site, only non-profit's are on there to get them started.

A question arose about what the package consisted of. Vice Chairperson Kennedy stated it doesn't exist yet, we thought it would be a good outreach program to reach out to the business. Mr. Link stated this package did exist; however, it fell by the way side because of printing issues and with the procedure on planning board and zoning board being on the web site, which used to be in hard form and was the most useful piece of the package.

Vice Chairperson spoke about how we would like to attempt to reach out to new businesses. It was brought up how the Township can help to get the businesses off the ground. It was suggested to allow the business to have more signs for exposure. Vice Chairperson Kennedy noted that in the past we did not always meet here; we tried to meet at different locations. It was asked to Mr. Asgari if we would be able to hold a meeting at his place of business – Subs & Bites. Mr. Asgari stated it might be distracting because of people coming in and out; however, we are welcome. Vice Chairperson Kennedy stated this is still a work in progress and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Awards

Vice Chairperson Kennedy stated we received numerous nominations; however not in every category.

Mayor's Award: Nominations were:

- Mayor Puliti for Colonial Lake; Kim Taylor for Colonial Lake; Marta Loe for Princeton Power Systems

The Board took a vote and was all in favor for Colonial Lanes for the Mayor's Award.

Vice Chairperson Kennedy read the nominations:

New Small Business

Purple Cow

New Large Business

Princeton Powers
Parsons Brinckerhoff

Growth & Redevelopment Committee Minutes
August 9, 2011
Page 3

Mayor's Award	Colonial Lanes Princeton Powers
Business Service Award	The Romy Buerano State Farm Agency Stark & Stark
Residential Ward	None
New Building/Renovation Award	Lawrenceville School (Rose Hill – Main Street) 2480 Route 1, LLC (Subs & Bites)
Podmore/Dwyer Historic Award	Fred Vereen, Jr.
Ralph Copleman Environmental Award	Lawrence Hopewell Trail Princeton Power Pamela Mount

Nominations were opened to the members of the Committee.

Councilman Powers nominated Pamela Mount for the Ralph Copleman Environmental Award because of all of her involvement with different community projects and organizations. Since this is the first year for the award and Councilwoman Mount worked closely with Mr. Copleman, it would be appropriate for her to receive this award. Mrs. Copleman will be there and would be very meaningful to her.

There was a brief discussion about the renovation award to a car dealership on Route 1. However, we cannot single just one out since most of the dealerships have been renovating. Mr. Lavine stated that a year ago PC Richard & H&H Gregg were nominated and PC Richard did not accept the award. A nomination was made for New Building/Renovation Award be given to 2480 LLC (Subs & Bites).

Mr. Link stated that we have already received a check from Choice One for a sponsorship and Brandywine also will sponsor. We need one (1) check for each award, total of 7 sponsors. Some members of the Committee, such as Cami Granahan will be working on getting a sponsor and Councilman Powers will ask Mrs. G's and Vice Chairperson Kennedy will ask his company to sponsor if needed.

The Awards Ceremony is on October 4, 2011. Publicity is a press release to announce the winners and the Chamber does the rest of the work. Ms. Granahan asked about the speaker. It is believed to be on the 2011 Special Olympics; however, not sure where the Awards Ceremony will be held.

The press release is sent out early September.

Redevelopment Issues

The Craft Cleaners was discussed and will be discussed further in detail at the next meeting. Councilman Powers stated about the building being demolished.

It was also mentioned about the two (2) solar sites that were proposed were the Municipal Building Parking Lot and the field at the Senior Citizen Building on Darrah Lane between the Library and the Senior Center parking lot. The place chosen is at the Senior Center; the problem with the Municipal Building is the parking lot would look horrible.

Mr. Little asked if we have any sculptures from Grounds for Sculpture and we have one in front of Homefront on Spruce Street. It was mentioned that when the roundabout is complete at Route 1 and Whitehead Road, Mayor Puliti will suggest a sculpture be put in the middle.

Growth & Redevelopment Committee Minutes
August 9, 2011
Page 4

The plan for the roundabout is on its way and will be started in 2013.

Mr. Link asked who will be notifying the award winners. Mr. Patel suggested Mr. Link to do the letters under Chairperson Bobbitt's signature. Ms. Granahan will notify Purple Cow; 2480 LLC is in the meeting and Mr. Vazirani suggested that the Chairperson notify the balance that do not have someone to contact them.

The same bowl will be used as last year with plaque; however, we do need a new engraver. Mr. Link will ask Mr. Groeger who he uses.

The awards were given to:

Mayor's Award: Colonial Lanes

New Large Business: Parsons Brinckerhoff

New Small Business: Purple Cow

Business Service Award: The Romy Buerano State Farm Agency

Residential Award: None

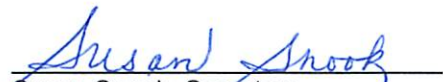
New Building/Renovation Award: 2480 LLC (Lawrenceville Land – Subs & Bites)

Podmore/Dwyer Historic Award: Fred Vereen, Jr.

Ralph Copleman Environmental Award: Councilperson Pamela Mount

The next meeting will be held on September 13, 2011.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



Susan Snook, Secretary
Growth & Redevelopment Committee