

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Tuesday, August 14, 2018

The following are the minutes of the Growth & Redevelopment Committee meeting, which was held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, at 6:34 p.m. in the Lawrence Township Municipal Building, Lower Level Conference Room.

Statement of Adequate 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 and the Trentonian.

Roll Call:

Present: Frank Comstock
Lovette Love-Stevens
Charles Lavine
John Conroy, Chairperson
Robert Pluta
Maria Connolly
Peter Ferrone
Melissa Clark
Andrew Frank
Ryan Kennedy

Absent: Brian Vaughn

Excused Absence: Tushar Patel
Joan Brame
Teresita Bastides-Heron
Pastor Nina Reeder
Christopher LaFlamme
Christopher Bobbitt, Council Liaison

Also Present: Andrew Link, Liaison
Susan Snook, Secretary

Minutes:

The July 10, 2018 minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comment:

Mr. Pluta introduced Eric Jaszewski, who Mr. Pluta nominated for the Business Service Award and stated he owns the Lawrenceville Family Chiropractic located on Route 1. He continued that he is very deserving of the award because every month he does a collection of canned foods, school supplies, coat drives and other programs in the community such as Healthy Bones for the elderly and thought he should speak for himself.

Securing Awards Program Sponsors (Two Remaining Awards that Need Sponsors):

Chairperson Conroy stated are down to two remaining awards that require sponsors which are Podmore/Dwyer Historic Award and Ralph Copleman Environmental Award and to put BMS down for the Environmental Award and still looking for a Historic Award. Ms. Connolly stated Costco and CenterCourt stated no. Mr. Link stated Mr. Patel would step in and do a sponsorship if we needed him to (Howard Johnson's). However, Chairperson Conroy stated we might be able to a second one from BMS. Chairperson Conroy also stated that it was appreciated that Mr. Patel would do a sponsorship. Mr. Kennedy stated RWJ might sponsor and will ask.

Awards Ceremony (Selection of Award Winners):

The Committee members discussed the nominations for each category, copies attached, and each member described why they nominated that business and voted as follows:

Mayor's Award:	Cooper Pest Solutions
New Large Business Award:	Robert Wood Johnson Physical Therapy
New Small Business Award:	Beauty Bar
Business Service Award:	Dr. Eric Jaszewski (Lawrence Family Chiropractic)*
Residential Award:	None
New Building/Renovation Award:	Explorations Pre-school
Podmore/Dwyer Historic Award:	Dennis Waters
Ralph Copleman Environmental Award:	Lawrence Township Public Schools

*Dr. Jaszewski was present at the meeting and thanked Mr. Pluta for nominating him. He introduced himself and stated he has been serving the community since 2012 and for the past six years he has been committed to improving the lives of local community members who are less fortunate. He does a lot of drives in his practice, every other month and which includes Home Front, for a necessity drive where people cannot afford home cleaning products, socks, eyeglass and basic stuff. He also does a youth equipment drive, a winter coat drive for Homefront where he received over 100 coats. There is a school drive that they are doing right now for unprivileged students which goes to Homefront. There was also a diaper drive for the Central Jersey Health Consortium where he received 10,000 diapers; a fund raiser for the Trenton Soup Kitchen where they received goods and also collected money. They also believe in educating the community on wellness and works with Project Healthy Bones for the elderly and gives lectures.

When discussing the Mayor's nomination, Mr. Comstock stated he has an issue with the Mayor giving a business an award because it implies approval of the business by the Town, not stating they are not a good business, just have an issue and personally would take them off the list. The Board discussed the history of the Mayor's award, such as it is an award from the Growth and Redevelopment Committee and it should be one of the perks for being the Mayor.

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Other Business:

Chairperson Conroy stated we have a speaker, Jennifer Garadelli. At the next meeting the Board will be choosing who will present the award. Also to notify Mr. Link who will be attending so Mr. Link can secure tickets as well as the award winners. Mr. Link suggested that the committee member call to see if they are accepting the award and they should inform him if they accepted with contact information.

The following members will notify the award winners:

Charles Lavine:	Cooper Pest Solutions
Melissa Clark:	Robert Wood Johnson
Robert Pluta:	Beauty Bar
Maria Connolly:	Dennis Water
Melissa Clark:	Lawrence Township Public Schools
Charles Lavine:	Explorations Pre-school

Chairperson Conroy asked Ms. Love-Stevens if she could bring one of her speeches to the next meeting because she is the best. Chairperson Conroy will do the program brochure.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Digital audio file of this meeting is available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan J. Snook
Recording Secretary

Minutes approved: Sept. 11, 2018