

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, July 9, 2019

The following are the minutes of the Growth & Redevelopment Committee meeting, which was held on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 6:30 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: Lovette Love-Stevens  
Charles Lavine (6:54 p.m.)  
Robert Pluta  
Maria Connolly  
Peter Ferrone  
Melissa Clark  
Andrew Frank  
Christopher LaFlamme

Absent: Brian Vaughn

Excused Absence: Tushar Patel  
Joan Brame  
Teresita Bastides-Heron  
Ryan Kennedy  
James Kilduff

Also Present: Christopher Bobbitt, Council Liaison  
Cathy LeCompte, School Board Liaison  
Susan Snook, Secretary

**Minutes:**

The June 11, 2019 minutes were unanimously approved with a change.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Business Outreach:**

Ms. Connolly stated she reached out to USA Nails and they responded their business is still open at this time; Allied Vision never responded; Day Care cannot make it tonight; Acacia and Fedora never responded; and Purple Cow never responded and will keep trying them for next month. Ms. LaCompte knows the owners of the Purple Cow and she will reach out to them. Ms. Connolly stated about possibly putting a hold on inviting businesses in the August because we will be picking the awards in August and suggested to start in September.

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Mr. Frank suggested do a theme like real estate who do commercial and residential in the area such as a developer or HOWCO management company. Chairperson Pluta stated he likes what we are doing and should keep it going. However, the main thing is take what they are saying and actually act on it, not make it like a feel good thank you. We should listen to what their concerns are and pass them onto Council to see if we can get some change.

**Categories for Awards Program:**

August 2<sup>nd</sup> is the deadline for the nominations. Ms. Clark made some suggestions on the form for next year. Chairperson Pluta suggested that the Board members make nominations because we really don't get the Township residents. Mr. Nerwinski suggested that the Board nominated Mr. Link for his years of service. Attached is the description of the awards. Chairperson Pluta stated the Board should get their nominations in before the deadline.

Chairperson Pluta stated that he will do a sponsorship the same as last year with Ms. Brame. The cost is \$350 for Mayor's award and \$250.00. Chairperson Pluta will reach out to a few businesses from last year. Mr. Frank reached out to Heug Young Kim, PhD. And is an Assistant Professor and her specialty is Organizational Behavior in the Workplace. She does a lot of cross cultural differences, physicalological issues in the workplace, but not what we do. She is doing research, now with the Princeton Police Department and Fire Department and Lawrenceville Police and Fire Departments and with the research she is finding that the Police Department is lack of appreciation. The Board decided to ask her to be the speaker.

The suggestions for sponsorships were Violetta, Lawrenceville School; Lawrence Shopping Center (as long as we were not going to give them an award); James Kilduff's law firm. The next meeting the awards to be assigned and September meeting should have it wrapped up. Mayor Bobbitt stated the sponsorships start out for \$350.00 for the Mayor's Award and after June 1<sup>st</sup> \$375.00 and everything else is \$300.00 after June 1<sup>st</sup> \$325.00. The sponsors will be picked at the September meeting on who will sponsor what award.

We have a photographer, Sam Pastorella who will do it for \$75.00.

**Sign Ordinance:**

Ms. Connolly stated the A-frame signs did not go to Council yet because it did not come to the Planning Board and not sure where it is currently. Chairperson Pluta stated he would like to make a motion to redo the window signage to make it less restrictive, instead of 25% make it 50%. It is important that once these business owners come here we take something from that and we try to change it. Mayor Bobbitt commented he hesitates to doubling something. Ms. Connolly has no problem making recommendations to Council, but to do it piece meal and wait to we get more business owners come in and do a full report to Council. The Board discussed the window signs. Chairperson Pluta made a motion to change the window signage and seconded by Chris LaFlamme. The vote was three yes; five nays. The Board gave their comments such as waiting until we hear from other businesses, get more information and it should be tabled.

The benefit to tabling it is to get more support from the businesses before it goes to Council to show how many businesses have complained. Ms. Connolly stated that every time a business comes in and says I don't like this, then going to Council and saying lets change it and would rather see everything first and then present it to Council.

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**Other Business:**

Ms. Connolly stated the Chamber would help us advertise for the breakfast and she will reach out to them with the date and place. The Committee's budget is \$3,000.00 and we have to pay for the breakfast, bowls, tickets, photographer, plaque and whatever else comes up. The breakfast is costing \$20.00 a head which could end up being \$2,500.00.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Digital audio file of this meeting is available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan J. Snook  
Recording Secretary