

Phillipsburg Urban Enterprise Zone
Minutes of Meeting -May 21, 2018

This meeting was called to order at 6:14 pm by chairperson Zwicker. In attendance were Chairman Keith Zwicker, Mayor Stephen Ellis, Carrie Scott, Dorothy Kays and Gayle Rogers. Also in attendance were Pat Dragotta, Charee Carney and Amy Hoppe.

Gaye motioned to call the meeting to order and the Mayor seconded. The motion carried.

Mayor Ellis appointed Amy Hoppe as the alternate number 2 member but it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Carrie motioned to approve the March minutes and the Mayor seconded. The motion carried.

For the Good of the Board

The board discussed potential businesses in Phillipsburg. There is a paparazzi jewelry business possibly opening up downtown that will also have classes. RJ the magician would like to open a dance/ art school in a building by Joe's Steak Shop. There are two manufacturing businesses that will create hundreds of jobs, but looking for existing buildings. Carrie suggested McGinley Mills. Dorothy suggested the building at the bottom of Walter's Park. Pat said they would like to see townhouses or something down there. Carrie said that we need to do something to attract good developers. Carrie said she would like to see a Trader Joe's in the area and Keith said the gym downtown would be perfect for a Trader Joe's. There is a market/ eatery going on Elizabeth and Market, people can sit outside, which would be nice. There is a soap shop with a bakery possibly opening downtown.

Chris Cotte asked if the town could put in a handicapped ramp and he'll provide a fence safety. The board was concerned because people are jumping off the wall.

The Mayor said that there is a meeting on Thursday June 2nd from 10 am to 2 and invited the UEZ. He said that he will talk to Kevin Duddy so that Charee can attend. The Mayor is also working on getting the Coke sign painted on Dan Papa's building. The Chamber has beautification monies for projects such as this. Pat was very interested in painted a mural on the other two sides that face the highway.

Kelly Sheedy joined the meeting.

Mayor Ellis said that the Ingersoll Rand project is moving along and plan to break ground in June or July. They already have tenants that will supply hundreds of jobs. Shammy Shine and Bourbon Street are coming along.

The Mayor will be meeting in May with NJ Transit about extending the train. He will be asking them to fund the archway by Shapell Park.

Kelly thanked the board for their support for the Firth Youth Center.

Pat said that Lopatcong has created a Warren County Economic Development Corporation that meets on the third Monday. He asked if anyone from the Phillipsburg UEZ Board would like to attend. The board agreed that Helene would be the best candidate. Whomever would like to attend needs to let Councilwoman DeGerolamo know.

Gayle motioned to adjourn and Dorothy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charee Carney
Board Secretary