

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP GROWTH & REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
August 13th, 2024
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The following are the minutes of the Growth & Redevelopment Committee meeting, which was held on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

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.

Roll Call:

Present:

Jeremy Ryan
Stavros Papafilipakis
Peter Ferrone
Melissa Clark, Chairperson
Edward Freeland
Maria Connolly, Vice Chairperson

Absent:

Charles Lavine, Zoning Board Representative

Excused Absence:

Alan Di Sciallo
Olympia I'Liou Perry, Council Liaison
Michele Bowes, School Board Liaison
Joan Brame

Also Present:

Jeffrey Radice, Secretary
Kelly Edelstein, Staff Liaison

Minutes:

July 9, 2024 minutes were approved.

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Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Updates:

Ooika Matcha and Strategic Therapy Partners both had ribbon cuttings that were successful and well attended. Upcoming ribbon cutting events include: Hero Dog Park, Affinity Credit Union, D'Carlo Pizza, Lawrence Family Chiropractic and Braulio's.

Future Meeting Locations:

The group discussed possible future meeting locations. Some of the locations included: Enzo's, Wren's Kitchen and Scotch Bonnet.

Proposed Areas of Focus Survey Report:

The committee held a discussion regarding the results of the survey that was formulated by one of the group members. The survey proposed areas of focus for the Growth and Redevelopment Committee and what direction the members see the committee moving in.

It was a group consensus that the finalized Master Plan would be a key factor to determining major factors in the mission of the committee.

The group discussed the best possible ways to propose the strategy to the Township Council once there is more clarity provided from the Master Plan.

The township committees meeting minutes were a topic of conversation. Many ideas were given on how to optimize minute taking to make them accurate, detailed and efficient. Some of those ideas revolved around Artificial Intelligence and upgrading technology to help summarize and organize the minutes.

The committee spoke about what the township and the GRC can do to best help new businesses. There was a discussion on how to better utilize the business manual and Shop Lawrence website.

Update from Council Liaison, Olympia l'Liou Perry:

Absent.

Other Business:

The committee spoke about hosting an upcoming networking event in December. The group brainstormed ideas of holding it at Rider University or other places around town. They organized a subcommittee to work on the event and meet outside of the monthly meeting hours. The committee talked about having a series of speakers, focusing on networking and a Q & A portion of the event.

The committee discussed the possible timeline of the Master Plan and speculated when it will be completed. The group plans to review the plan and use it to formulate a mission/charter statement.

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Public Comment:

None.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Radice
Recording Secretary

Minutes approved: _____