

Toms River Business Development Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, June 2, 2021; 8:00 a.m.

(Meeting conducted at BID office and virtually via Zoom/In Person due to COVID-19)

MINUTES

In attendance: Tony Agliata, Bill Beining, MaryJo Buchanan, Lisa Cifaretto, Tom Forgione, Dean Gresek, Gigi Hayes, Lee Pelton Dave Roberts, Mike Hovance, Marshall Kern, Georgette Kyriacou, Danielle Norcross, Bob Shea, Danielle Szczypinski and Staff: Mairin Bellack, Kim Dippolito, and Liz Thomson. Guests: Not present: Mayor Hill, Sandra Lazzaro, Gabe Gillen, John Brown, and Pam Piner.

- Called to order at 8:02 a.m.
- Introductions & Announcements: None
- Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes was made by B. Beining and second by L. Cifretto. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- Treasurer's Report (L. Pelton): L. Pelton reported that The BID finances are in good shape. We have received both PPP Loans and expect the second to be forgiven. M. Bellack has been successful in getting a number of grants that has been very helpful as well. We are still waiting on the new truck.
- Committee Reports
- Cultural Committee (L. Cifaretto): L. Cifaretto reported that Eric, from the Toms River Seaport Society is joining TRAC. This will allow for a number of crossover events to happen. They are looking to have an event at the Seaport with Garden State Distillery. These will be shows that have a theme. M. Bellack encouraged everyone to come to see the Appreciation Mural that will be going up soon on the Irons Street retaining wall. The Parking Authority has been very helpful in getting the wall area ready of the installation. It looks like the installation will take place in mid-June. In the TRAC Gallery they are currently showing artwork from the Filipino Developmental Center. L. Cifretto shared what a wonderful group of children participated and how very talented they are.
- Design (B. Beining)- B. Beining reported that the truck has been delayed, possibly ready by the end of June depending on when they get the chips into the dealership. All is going well in the building.

- Economic Restructuring/Land Use- B. Shea reported that The Capodagli Group is looking to go before the Council in June and then from there to the Planning Board.
- Land Use- D. Roberts shared that in regard to the Capodagli project that the agreements need to be authorized for an amendment. The Redevelopment Plan has to be amended to reflect the current conditions. That amended plan is to be introduced on the June 22 agenda. This will add the arts and cultural district. In regard to the Robbins Parkway plan, they have gotten a report from the structural engineer regarding The Boatworks and it confirms that the structure is unstable and needs to be demolished. This will be shown to the state Historic Preservation Office. The plan is to have an interpretive sign with the history of the boatworks to be placed on the property to maintain the history of the building. There is no update on the VA Clinic. On June 9th there will be a resolution to authorize the Planning Board to undertake the Sea Court Plaza into the Caudina Redevelopment Plan.

D. Roberts informed the board that they have heard back on the TAP Grant and have been denied. It was due to the fact that until the Ortlely Beach project is finished, we can't get the grant. It will not preclude the township applying again in the future. M. Bellack thanked D. Roberts for all of his work on the grant. Going forward with the possibility of closing a portion of Washington Street for a continuation of Downtown Night Out, the TAP Grant could be helpful with this in regard to streetscape design.

M. Bellack gave an update on the Hidden History Trail and indicated that she would be happy to include the Boatworks to the website. The Hidden History Trail is good to go they are waiting for all the signs to be installed. Hopefully they will all go up in a month or two.

- Finance (L. Pelton) – M. Bellack reported that when ready, we will be applying for the PPP Round 2 Loan Forgiveness. She will also be applying for the County Grant for Non-Profits for possibly doing a traffic study for looking forward to closing part of Washington Street.
- Organization (D. Szczypinski)- M. Bellack reported that the committee has agreed to meet quarterly.
- Promotions (Tom Forgione)- K. Dippolito reminded that board that the Famer's Market takes place every Wednesday at 700 Main Street. Cruisin Downtown will be coming back on June 9th. Summer in the Street will take place on July 17th. K. Dippolito, T. Forgione and M. Bellack are working on a marketing plan using the OC Tourism Grant funds to start branding Downtown Toms River and that campaign will be geared to reach Monmouth and Atlantic Counties.

7. Colleague Reports:

Township (Mayor Hill, Lou Amoruso and D. Roberts)- No report.

Parking Authority (P. Piner)- B. Beining reported that the Parking Authority is struggling and working in a month-to-month basis right now. B. Beining has spoken to P. Piner about the grants that M. Bellack shared with them. M. Bellack has been in consultation with P. Piner in an effort to help with the grant applications that are related to Covid expenses.

County (T. Agliata, N. Leaf) – T. Agliata reported that the county is working with local Congressmen about a transportation plan seeking \$10 million award. These funds would be used to connect the Joint Base. It would build an overpass over Route 539. T. Agliata has a positive outlook on this project.

Library (Gigi Hayes)- G. Hayes reported that the library will now be back to regular hours. June is Alzheimer and Brain Awareness month as well as Pride Month. The Summer Reading program is here. All the events are on their website, and they continue with online content. They are partnering with the OC Health Department on 6/16 (10-1) and 7/14 (10-1) for a vaccine clinic at the Toms River branch.

Chamber of Commerce (D. Norcross)- D. Norcross reported that the Chamber is doing back to business programs. Their Scholarship event is on Monday, June 7th. They had a golf outing last week that was a huge success. It was sold out for golfers. The Annual event will be held on October 21, 2021.

Old Business: None

New Business: M. Bellack reminded the board members that next month's meeting will be in person. She will send out a Zoom link for anyone who is uncomfortable coming in person. There is no current update on the Main Street Designation. She will keep the board updated as she knows more. D. Roberts reported that the Land Use Committee has added the provision regarding murals into the sign regulations. A separate section for the Downtown Sign Regulations will be proposed add The BID Design Committee involvement for signs for the Downtown area. When the regulations get adopted, a process may be set up to give the Deign Committee a voice in the signage to fit with the Downtown atmosphere. D. Roberts will share a draft of the proposal to M. Bellack.

Adjournment: a motion to adjourn was made by B. Beining and second by T. Forgione. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 am.