

Toms River Business Development Corporation
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 4, 2022; 8:00 a.m.
(Meeting conducted in person and via Zoom)

MINUTES

In attendance: Bill Beining, Phil Brilliant, MaryJo Buchanan, Lisa Cifaretto, Tom Forgione, Dean Gresek, Mike Hovance, Rebecca Leopold-Bunucci, Lee Pelton, Pam Piner, Dave Roberts, Bob Shea, Danielle Szcypinski and Staff: Mairin Bellack, Kim Dippolito, and Liz Thomson. Guests: Rick Norman Not present: Mayor Hill, Lou Amoruso, Georgette Kyriacou, Sandra Lazzaro, Gabe Gillen, Tony Palmucci,, John Brown, Danielle Norcross and Arleen Read.

- Called to order at 8:05 a.m.
- Introductions & Announcements: M. Bellack reported she had a meeting with M&T Bank to discuss low interest loans for downtown businesses interested in improving their façade. M. Bellack spoke at one of the Rotary Clubs yesterday. Tomorrow we will be having a Main Street Designation training for the staff and members of the Executive Committee from 10-12 and 1-3 via Zoom.
- Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes was made by B. Shea and second by B. Beining. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- Treasurer's Report (L. Pelton): L. Pelton reported that the financials are in good shape. He reminded the board that while the balance sheet shows a large balance, there are the funds that were taken out in the refinance of the mortgage to put in an elevator or building improvements that would increase the value of the building. B. Shea stated that he would reach out to Michael Wright about the elevator installer that they used for getting another price since the one was astronomical.
- Committee Reports
- Cultural Committee (L. Cifaretto) L. Cifaretto reported that they have secured 250 carnations from Stop N Shop for the downtown businesses to hand out on Mother's Day. The first Art Walk will take place this Wednesday. It will happen the first Wednesday of each month. Artists will be out on the sidewalks on Main Street with their art for sale. She encouraged all the members to attend. There will be a reception for the art show for the Ocean Partnership for Children art work. On 5/21 Wake Up Toms River- Arts and Craft show will happen at The Seaport Museum. The TRAC artists were a part of the Field of Dreams grand opening as they contributed 46 of the billboards for the complex.
- Design (B. Beining)- B. Beining gave an update on the storage facility located at Allied/Beacon Building Supplies. M. Bellack secured a dumpster from the township to get rid of the garbage. E. Reilly worked for two days straight cleaning the space out. The Parking Authority has

offered to let us use a storage shed by the bus terminal for the storage of the snowflakes.

- Economic Restructuring/Land Use- D. Roberts gave an update on the progress of the various projects taking place in Toms River. Field of Dreams had their grand opening, and it was extraordinary. Toms River Food Fest will take place this weekend. There will be a ribbon cutting for The Hidden History Trail on May 13. There will be a ground breaking for the new VA Clinic on May 16th, this is an invitation only event. There will be a public event when the clinic is complete. There will be a public hearing on the Robbins Parkway site being removed from the Rosi List on May 26, 2022 at 5pm in the Lomell Room in Town Hall. The Upper Iron Street development plan is moving further along. The Land Use Committee made some modifications. In this building there would be 15% to offer affordable housing. Both projects are progressing.
- Finance (L. Pelton) – M. Bellack reported that The BID budget is set for approval at the May 11, 2022 Council meeting. She asked the board to attend for support of The BID.
- Organization (D. Szczypinski)- D. Szczypinski reported that the Resident Committee will meet in May and then going forward will meet quarterly.
- Promotions (Tom Forgione)- T. Forgione introduced a plan for hiring a photographer to take photos at our events that can be used in promotional information. Tracey Harmon gave The BID a quote in the amount of \$1,500, which will come out of the promotions budget. A motion to sign the contract with Tracey Harmon was made by L. Cifaretto and second by M. Hovance. The motion was unanimously approved. K. Dippolio reminded the board that Downtown Night Out begins on Friday, May 13th and runs through October. Food Fest is this weekend from 12pm-8pm Saturday with a rain date of Sunday. The Toms River Fire Department #2 will be having their 100th Anniversary on 5/14/22 in Huddy Park. T. Forgione asked the board member to come to the events downtown and when they do to please post it on social media.

- Colleague Reports:

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

Parking Authority (P. Piner)- P. Piner gave an update on The Parking Authority. They have hired a part-time repair person. They have to upgrade all of the parking meters to 4G. The batteries for the meters are very hard to get right now due to supply chain issues. Park and Ride has hit 60% capacity. The Parking Authority has reached out to NJ DOT and they have been helping with some work at the bus terminal. The terminal is now open for bus ticket purchases on weekends. The Parking Authority has a dump truck for sale.

County (S. Lazzaro) – No report.

Library (Rebecca Leopold-Bunucci)- The library will be having their Friends Annual Book Sale on May 6 & 7. On May 25 at 6:00 pm the

library will host an author talk with Sabeeha Rehman and Walter Ruby on “We Refuse to be Enemies”.

Chamber of Commerce (D. Norcross)- P. Brilliant reminded the board that there is a Small Business Advisory Committee meeting on May 17. There is a recommendation coming to the council for an amendment to the Food Truck Ordinance. Commerce Magazine did a highlight of Toms River in its most recent issue. The next member connect will take place on Friday, May 13 at B2 Bistro. He reported that the Chamber has decided to move and no longer have a brick and mortar office. P. Brilliant was pleased to report that The Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce now has 411 members.

Old Business:

New Business: M. Bellack reiterated that from the Small Business Advisory Council, an amendment be made to the current Food Truck Ordinance in Toms River. This will allow for food trucks to obtain permits and be able to park on Washington Street between Main Street and Hooper Avenue on Sundays only from 9am-9pm. M. Bellack recommended that the trucks serve from the sidewalk side and park legally in the spaces as marked. We will work with the town council to make it fair for everyone.

Adjournment: a motion to adjourn was made by B. Beining and second by L. Cifaretto. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 am.