AGENDA
VOORHEES BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, November 7th, 2019
7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:
"This meeting is being held in compliance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act and has been duly published as required by law."

ROLL CALL

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

NEW BUSINESS:
New business update

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING DATE: December 5th

BDC Meeting Minutes
11/7/2019

Roll Call Attendance:

Present: Andrew Schallenhammer, Scott Levy, Emily Morgan, Mario DiNatale, Neal Cupersmith, Joseph Perno

Absent: Neal Cupersmith, Mike Cherkas, Stella Sytnik, Harry Platt

Chairman Schallenhammer asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Joe Perno motioned, Scott Levy seconded, all approved.

Chairman Schallenhammer started off by explaining that the planning board has approved a new business in town for proton therapy at Virtua hospital, and we will be the first town in south Jersey to have this type of therapy available. Panda express has also been approved and the construction has started. Mario stated that the old Genuardi's space will be taken over by Edge gym, and that the Lions Gate project has been turned down.

asked Mario to explain what's going on with Shop Voorhees. Mario stated that he implemented a new program for the phone that allows you to check your account by giving you a code and then there's a text with a link. He also sent an email to all businesses explaining the program but received no responses back. Mike suggested updating the Shop Voorhees list because it's outdated. Scott also suggested posting about the new program on Facebook. Andy and Mario agreed and said they will work on it.
Mario met with an engineer in reference to the Macy's space. He got the township to spend money on an architect for some ideas of a sports entertainment center. He also suggested that Jason Ravitz's idea of Jake's Place (a special needs playground) be placed indoor at the mall. If we can build up the Macy's space, the rest will fall into place and we can hopefully generate revenue.
Mario also explained some different options for bike paths. A bike path is mandatory for transit village, and we meet a lot of the criteria needed for a transit village. We also have a grant to build sidewalks that we'd need for the transit village. The grant helps so we wouldn't have to use all tax dollars for the bike paths, sidewalks or upgrades. Mario met with NJ transit. It would be a prerequisite to vet this through the public so that he could go back to them and explain that the board, residents and business owners like and want this idea.
Andy stated that a new indoor business was just approved for route 561, it will be a ping pong/volleyball area.
Mike asked if we are trying to do any phone calls for sponsorship, Mario said he would work on that.
Mario told everyone about the upcoming drive-in movie event, that is supposed to be a huge turnout, and the vendors for that will help pat for the Halloween/fall festival.
Stella invited everyone to attend international day on October 5th.

Public Forum: 3 guests attended the meeting. Sam Balducci, owner of Giant Fitness. Ken McKenzie, owner of McKenzies martial Arts. Don Balducci, 42-year resident and helps run Giant Fitness with his brother. Sam's main complaint is that zoning makes it difficult for businesses in town. He states that he has brought other businesses into town and is upset that he gets violations for small things. Don stated that he has issues with businesses being treated bad in town.
Mario explained that he spoke to zoning about in reference to Sam, but he cannot command zoning department to do anything. They are licensed and have to do their job.
Andy explained that there really is not much we can do; however, we will listen to the complaints and they are welcome to attend any meeting to express their concerns.

Chairman Schallenhammer asked for any further comments from the board. With there being none, a motion was made, seconded, and agreed to by all to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Rieders,
BDC Secretary