

Lower Makefield Township
Economic Development Commission
June 22, 2010
Meeting Minutes

Present: Robert Smith, Chairman Cynthia Osofsky, Member
 Edmund Kuszmar, Member Peter Stainthorpe, BOS Liaison
 Margaret Fine Levy, Member

Absent: Ellen Slott Fisher, Vice Chair

The June 22, 2010 meeting of the Economic Development Commission was called to order by Chairman Robert Smith, at 7:30PM.

Approval of minutes from the May 26, 2010 meeting – The minutes of the May 26, 2010 EDC meeting were unanimously approved, as written.

Public comment – There were no members of the public in attendance.

Summary of recent activity/events – Mr. Smith and Mr. Stainthorpe attended the June 3 meeting of TMA Bucks (Transportation Management Association), whose mission is to provide leadership for transportation issues in Bucks County. Mr. Smith reported that TMA Bucks operates the rushbus, a fixed-route, public transportation peak-hour service that is designed to connect workers from existing transportation services to nearby employers. Among other activities, the TMA raises money for scholarships and works with PennDOT on safe driving issues.

Rep. Patrick Murphy's Job Fairs - Congressman Patrick Murphy has two job fairs scheduled, one on June 26, from 1-4PM, at Oxford Valley Mall, and the other on July 13, from 1-4PM, at Truman High School in Levittown.

Report from the Board of Supervisors – There was a presentation to the BOS at their June 2, 2010 meeting, regarding the movement to restore the Newtown R-8 Rail Line, which stopped running in 1982. A motion was made, and passed unanimously by the LMT BOS, to support a study, to commence within a year, to determine the feasibility of the restoration.

Mr. Smith had seen an article which said a company called OptiNose, which makes a flu shot nasal delivery system, will be moving to Yardley from Norway. Nothing else is known, including whether the company is moving to Yardley Borough or Lower Makefield Township. (Note: The EDC subsequently confirmed that OptiNose is relocating their headquarters from Oslo, Norway to the Lower Makefield Corporate Center at 1010 Stony Hill Road.)

Mr. Stainthorpe updated the EDC on the Satterthwaite House on Patterson Farm. There is some interest on the part of the BOS in selling or leasing it. A veterinarian, who may want to put an equine hospital on the property, may be interested in living in the house and building a hospital, while the rest of the property would continue to be farmed. The Township has also not ruled out the possibility of leasing to

a resident curator. Mr. Stainthorpe, in response to a question about Elm Lowne, said that they had gotten only one bid, which was \$400,000 less than the appraisal of \$900,000, and that the bidder pulled out the next day. The Township Solicitor will be looking into the legality of hiring a high-end realtor for Elm Lowne; and, the Township is considering putting an ad in the New York Times Magazine.

Fall Meet and Greet – The Meet and Greet will probably be held at Sunrise Assisted Living and it is hoped that Tom Moore, from Select Greater Philadelphia, will speak. Mr. Smith will check with him on his availability and, once he has a date, will pass it along to the rest of EDC. Ms. Osofosky suggested that there be only one speaker, so that there is more time to mingle. All agreed.

Old Business – Mr. Kuszmar asked about the status of the sign project. Mr. Smith explained that an Eagle Scout candidate is making four signs and the EDC decided to step aside until his are completed. He expects that the EDC will resume their work on the sign project in the Fall and will toward going before the BOS with a comprehensive plan early in 2011.

There being no further business to discuss, the June 22, 2010 meeting of the Economic Development Commission was adjourned at 8:15PM. The next EDC meeting will be held on July 27, 2010, at 7:30PM, at the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Bray, Recording Secretary