

Lower Makefield Township
Economic Development Commission
November 30, 2010
Meeting Minutes

Present: Robert Smith, Chairman Cynthia Osofsky, Member
 Margaret Fine Levy, Member

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

Review of November 10, 2010 Meet and Greet - Mr. Smith suggested, since the number of attendees was disappointing - approximately 30 people, of which fewer than 20 were LMT business people – and there have been few new attendees, that the EDC should consider adopting a different format for the meet and greets or doing something else entirely. He noted that very few LMT businesses belong to local business groups, such as Lower Bucks Chamber of Commerce. The LMT Supervisors were impressed with the presentation by Tom Moore, who did an excellent job. Attendance by three of the five Supervisors was one of the positive aspects of the meet and greet. Mr. Smith said that the EDC needs to find ways to communicate the importance of supporting local small businesses to LMT residents. He referred to OPEN – Small Business, an American Express program which supports small businesses by rewarding members who purchase from those businesses. American Express also supported a very successful project called Small Business Saturday, held on the Saturday after Black Friday.

An important point that Mr. Moore made in his presentation was that we need to be welcoming and ambassadors for our Township. This led Mr. Smith to speak to Dave Kelliher, who is the AV consultant for the Township and a member of the LMT Electronic Media Advisory Committee, to find out what plans are underway in the Township to enhance the website. Ms. Osofsky asked if there is a way for the Township to red flag any calls that are received by the Zoning Department, from people interested in opening businesses in the Township; she suggested that an EDC member could follow up with a phone call. Mr. Smith noted that the organization which did the Township map is now doing online maps to support local businesses. We would give the company a list of every business in the Township and they would develop a link to each of them on our website. Mr. Smith will talk to Township Manager, Terry Fedorchak, about the idea. Ms. Levy suggested featuring local businesses on the website.

Disabled Persons Advisory Council Local Business Award – Mr. Smith asked that EDC members do whatever they can to help the DPAC to generate nominees for the award. He will send a copy of the DPAC flyer to the MOST program, in case there are businesses they think would be eligible.

With no further business to discuss, the November 30, 2010 meeting of the LMT Economic Development Commission adjourned at 8:25PM. The next meeting of the EDC will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 7:30PM, in the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Bray, Recording Secretary