**Medford Township**

**Economic Development Advisory Commission**

**February 2, 2022 – 7:00 pm**

**Medford Municipal Building**

*“The purpose of this Advisory Commission is to assist the Medford Township Council in the development and maintenance of a positive business environment in the community; including attracting and supporting businesses via Business Recruitment and Retention strategies.”*

EDC: Sarah Cooper, Brian Seltzer, Tom Juliano, Abbie Galie, Vittorio Anepete

NSAC: Michelle Voorhees, Kathy Cullen, Tom Wright, Avril Dickerson

Councilwoman Symons, Mayor Watson, Beth Portocalis

Resident: Steve Cassidy

Introductions: Welcomed new members, EDAC and NSAC members

Beth gave an overview and reasoning for the combination of the EDAC and NSAC meeting dates.

Discussion around Medford’s 175th Anniversary this year.

**Current Projects**

EDC

* Past and present photographs to highlight scenic areas, shopping districts and parks for NJ Motion Picture and Television Commission
* Honoring legacy businesses (i.e. Braddocks, Harriett’s) in conjunction with the MBA
* Vacancy spreadsheet

NSAC

* Helped with town website in the past.
* Brought back Medford Messenger. Trying to increase subscribers.
* Welcome to Medford packet. Geared toward homeowners, add information for business owners.
* Worked with MYAA to find volunteers

Beth: Twp is looking to revamp website. Currently use website databases to send Twp. info & the Messenger newsletter. The new website will use Constant Contact, which is a better way to communicate via email with residents.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve January’s meeting minutes: Tom Wright, Second: Abbie Galie, Abstain: Vittorio Anepete

**Open Discussion**

Steve Cassidy: Looking to open a business. Director of sales for a large brewing association. Looking to open a food and beverage business. Saw there were 3 liquor licenses available.

Mayor: Hit 24,000 residents with the last census. Potential to get another consumption license to issue.

Recreational Cannabis: Twp opted out by passing an Ordinance before legislation was adopted.

Mayor: Working on designated open container zone to start allowing it in the village with beverages purchased in the village.

Abbie: Downtown NJ working on liquor license reform

Beth: Stokelan Winery has all approvals and will open in March/April.

Beth distributed the opening a business in Medford brochure for comments.

Looking to honor legacy businesses. Let Beth know of any 25+ years.

Friday Feb 4th is official 175th Anniversary. Medford will acknowledge the date along with a dedication ceremony for the new Town Hall & Library.

Beth: Has someone interested in Beau Rivage at Tuckerton & Taunton rehabilitation zone. Likely a teardown/rebuild given its present condition.

**Commercial District Champions**

**Rt 70:** Maggie Moose will open soon. AutoZone is expected to apply to the Zoning Board to build next to Monro Muffler.

**Main Street:** Grazing Affair now open at 3 South Main. Fabulous Fig opening at Center for Life and Balance

First Fridays starting. All business open 3 to 8 PM.

Main Street “money” program going well

Possible Main Street T-shirt for 175th Anniversary

Looking to host a Founders Day celebration around Independence Day

Food Trucks starting again in March. Trying to recruit new trucks. Goal to get back to 12 trucks.

Chocolate Scavenger Hunt March 19th

Mill Creek Apiary may take Harvest’s old spot on Bank Street.

No bites on the Library Building yet.

**Stokes:** Ironstone Village. New broker, Evergreen Realty. Old Paradise Sports painted should be filled.

Tom Wright provided NSAC updates.

Adjourned at 8:16 PM.