



49 Union Street • Medford • NJ 08055 • 609/654-2608

[www.medfordtownship.com](http://www.medfordtownship.com)

MAIN FAX 609/953-4087

CLERK/FINANCE FAX 609/714-1790

CONSTRUCTION FAX 609/953-7720

PUBLIC WORKS FAX 609/654-7646

**MEDFORD TOWNSHIP  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**THURS., SEPTEMBER 6, 2023 @ 7:00 PM - Town Hall Community Room**

**ROLL CALL (7:00 pm):**

Present: Dave Miller, Mike Baublitz, Sarah Cooper, Avril Dickerson, Michelle Voorhees, Brian Seltzer, Beth Portocalis and Mayor Chuck Watson

Absent: Mike Pagnotta

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 12, 2023 Meeting (no August meeting)**

Avril Dickerson made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Sarah Cooper. Michelle Voorhees abstained. All others present voted in favor of approval.

**NEW BUSINESS / ON-GOING PROJECTS**

**1) Updated spreadsheet of available commercial properties-All**

Sarah (Taunton & Tuckerton): Dory's opening in Taunton Forge as a retail store.

Captain Chuckys Crab Cakes opens on 9/7/23.

Avril (Medford Village) – 43 S. Main St available; The Artery relocated to the former Fire Station on Fairview Road as they needed more space.

Dave (Stokes Road) – no changes;

Michelle (Stokes Road) no changes;

Michael (Stokes Road) – no changes

Brian (Crossroads) - No changes

Mike P (Route 70) not present but Beth noted that Ry & Howie's sandwich shop opened next to Rita's Water Ice.

The Mayor added that the Feed Mill developer has purchased the 2 South Main Street building and has some neat ideas; including a new restaurant (Goldberg's) an upscale burger joint. This retail space in this building being on the corner of Main and Union has potential for retail space and other eateries once the current leases expire.

There has some interest in the former Library building. The Mayor & Council would like to see a food/beverage business open there. Council is working on additional parking on township owned land on South Street, which is off South Main Street.

He added the food truck nights continue to be extremely busy and have increased business for all Village businesses that stay open! All of the breweries also have increased business, as having three breweries makes Main Street a popular destination.

Sarah Cooper will update the districts and send the file to Beth Portocalis for submission to the Council

## **2) Update on Meetings with any business owners +delivery of surveys**

Avril – completed Main Street except 3 sites. Favorable. 2 returned surveys Cabin Couture and Toy Store

Sarah – doing this weekend

Michelle and Brian will do this week.

Brian – Working on it

Dave – did most, will do Flannigan’s section; Riley’s Candy completed survey.

Thanks to Beth for great job on survey and business cards

## **3) Goals and Objectives – No discussion; on-going projects continuing**

## **4) Guest Speakers for Upcoming Meetings**

- a. Sarah Cooper stated that David DePetris of the Village at Taunton Forge ownership would like to attend the November 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and speak with us; he may have more “news” to report on. All agreed, Sarah to extend official invite

## **5) EDC Table at Upcoming Events:**

- a. MBA’s Oktoberfest – Sept 15th & 16<sup>th</sup>

-sign up is online on sign up genesis.

-Friday is only 5-9pm. Recommend only have table on Saturday 9/16 due to music and lights. Saturday is 12-9; EDC should host table from approx. 12-6 pm. Beth has How to Open a Business Brochure, signage and other items. Dave is contact person if you are able to volunteer. Beth – stated we could share table with EAAC.

Activities include a Stein holding contest (King’s Road Brewery is hosting the finals on 10/21/23 at their location), Lower Forge is coordinating a costume contest, the new brewery Magnify is hosting a brat eating contest.

- b. Arts Center Craft Fair – Sept. 30th – Avril is lead. Lots of vendors and hoping for food truck. Around Gazebo

- c. Main Street Fall Festival – October 21st (increased from Food Mill event 2022)

d. Dickens Festival – December 2 (run by Main St. Merchants) It was decided this was not a suitable event.

**6) Update on “opening a Business in Medford” brochure**

- a. Beth will coordinate a kick-off meeting with the subcommittee of Sarah, Michelle, Brian & Michael B.

**7) Other Business**

- a. A couple of Board members noted their unavailability for the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Those present said they would be available to meet on October 11<sup>th</sup>. A straw vote was taken with all in favor. Beth to send out a note to everyone, including the scheduled Council liaison, to confirm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- b. Avril Dickerson motioned to adjourn at 7:59 pm and Michael Baublitz seconded. All in favor.

**\*\* NEXT MEETING-OCTOBER 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 @7:00 PM\*\***

*Prepared by Michelle Voorhees, Recording Secretary*