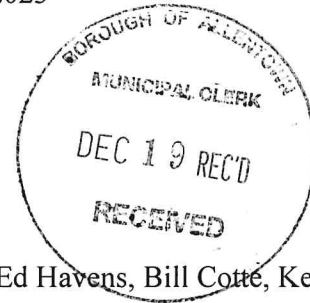


Allentown Economic Development Commission

Wednesday, January 18th, 2023

MINUTES



Call to Order: Chairwoman, Linda Cotte 7:02pm

Salute to Flag:

Roll Call: Present: Linda Cotte, David Lam, Debbie Macaluso, Ed Havens, Bill Cotte, Kevin Jean-Louis, Stephanie Lipnicki, Council Liaison, Danny Payson

Council Liaison: Danny Payson, Present

Quorum: Determined

Compliance Statement Read: Chairwoman, Linda Cotte

Chairwomen's Update:

- Linda Cotte, main purpose for January's meeting: Election of commission officers for 2023. Allentown Borough Council is considering restructuring the function and responsibilities of the EDC. A meeting with Council President Elder, Councilman Payson and EDC Chairwoman Cotte will be set in the near future to discuss.

Reorganization:

- Election of Commission Chairperson- motion made by Ed Havens, 2nd by Bill Cotte to reappoint Linda Cotte as Chairwoman. Motion passed
- Election of Vice Chair- motion made by Bill Cotte, 2nd by Ed Havens to appoint Kevin Jean-Louis. Motion passed
- Election of Commission Secretary- motion made by Bill Cotte, 2nd Ed Havens to reappoint Debbie Macaluso. Motion passed
- Election of Commission Treasurer- motion made by Debbie Macaluso, 2nd by Linda Cotte to reappoint Ed Havens. Motion passed

Approval of Minutes:

- Minutes Wednesday, December 21st, 2023- Bill Cotte motioned, Debbie Macaluso 2nd, Minutes approved

Treasury Report:

- Treasurer Ed Havens – treasury report and budget review tabled to the Feb. meeting

Public Comments: *(limit to 3 mins per person)*

- No public participation

Old Business:

- Snow Removal- Linda Cotte brought the Allentown business owner's concerns to council about the clearing of sidewalks and snow removal in front of their stores. Feedback: Law states it is property owners' responsibility to remove snow and make a clear and safe passage on all sidewalks/passageways on their property unless stated otherwise in the lease agreements to tenants. Fines can be imposed by Ron Gafkin, Allentown Borough Inspector, to the property owners if not addressed within 24 hours. This was also confirmed by the borough attorney and posted on the Allentown Borough website.
- EDC Meeting Dates and Times- Dates and times for EDC meetings have been approved and posted on the Allentown Borough website. Meetings will be held every third Wednesday of the month. Time will remain at 7:00pm.

10. New Business

- Resignation- The EDC received Jeff McLaughlin's letter of resignation. He will continue to volunteer as the Historian for EDC's annual Carriage Ride event. Rob Schmitt has also agreed to be a Historian for the EDC Carriage Ride in the event we need an additional Historian.
- Ricky Macaluso, owner of Woody's Café has found a company willing to plow Main Street Businesses and will pass this information on to the ABCA to post.
- Recruitment- EDC is looking to recruit two more members to fill vacancies for the commission.
- Carriage Ride- Stephanie Lipnicki felt her business did not get any foot traffic directly related to the Carriage Ride event. She wondered if this event is designed to bring people into Allentown Businesses or just to enhance our town. She suggested EDC find a way to encourage ticket holders to shop at the local businesses while in town for the event. Councilman Payson and Chairwoman Cotte commented that a service business usually does not draw people in to shop like that of a retail location. Councilman Payson suggested handing out maps of the local business area. A suggestion was made to possibly print a map on the back of the tickets or email a map with the tickets when purchased. Bill Cotte reminded everyone in order to keep track of ticket sales and time slots tickets must be purchased at Borough Hall and not through email. The EDC is willing to hand out advertisement flyers or coupons to the public during the event on behalf of the local businesses.
- ABCA Spring Stroll: event is scheduled for April 23rd-24th.

Committee Reports:

- ABCA: Bill reminded everyone that the ABC annual Reorganization meeting is tomorrow January 19th at 6:30pm a La Piazza.

12. Adjournment:

- Bill Cotte motioned to adjourn, Ed Havens 2nd. Meeting adjourned 7:30pm.

12. Next Meeting: February 15th at 7:00pm