

APPROVED
Economic Development Council
MINUTES

October 25, 2019
Mt. Lebanon Municipal Building – Conference Room C
710 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228
7:30 A.M.

In attendance:

Chris Musuneggi, John Vogel, Stacey Reibach, Valerie Fleisher, Elaine Evosovic, Chris Heck, Joe Kramer, Andrew George

Commission Liaison: John Bendel

Guest: None

Staff: Eric Milliron

- I. **Call to Order:** Chris Musuneggi called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. **Citizen's Comments:** None.
- III. **Approval of Minutes from September 27, 2019:** Chris Heck made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Stacey Reibach. Passed.
- IV. **McNeilly Park** – Jonathan Farrell from the Parks Advisory Board attended to update the Parks Advisory Board's (PAB) discussions and intentions for McNeilly and a DCNR grant that was submitted by the Municipality to offer improvements to the park. Mr. Farrell discussed the PAB's interest in activating McNeilly in a manner that would not prohibit unforeseen uses of the park, both active and passive. He also mentioned that the PAB is aware of former plans developed for this community asset. Mr. Farrell was asked by Joe Kramer if he believes the PAB would be interested in forming a joint committee to lead efforts in activating the park in a manner that fully recognizes its potential. Mr. Farrell answered in the affirmative. The EDC supported the Chair's recommendation that a representative from the Parks Advisory Board and Sports Advisory Board be invited to an EDC meeting to discuss the park.
- V. **1st Floor Ordinance Update** – The EDC was updated on the Commission's decision to table a vote on changes to an ordinance on CBD first floor commercial usage.
- VI. **Economic Vitality Committee (EVC)** – Eric Milliron provided an update about the EVC meeting. The meeting focused how the Partnership can assist the Code Enforcement Officer with the Municipality on matters related to the CBD and on properties to consider for development assistance. Specific focus is on the Denis Theater property. A meeting is being scheduled with EVC members and Board membership from the Denis Theater Foundation.
- VII. **Vibrant Uptown Steering Committee** – Eric Milliron provided an update on the Vibrant Uptown Steering Committee's progress on design elements of the Uptown Streetscape project. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 13th.
- VIII. **2019 Priorities** –The priorities presented to the Commission + Manager are:
 - a. **Uptown Public Space Improvement (PSI)** – this project includes sidewalk replacement, new street lighting and conduit as the primary short-term objective. In tandem are efforts to enhance connectivity to the Mt. Lebanon T Station and activating Parse Way.
 - b. **Retail/3rd Place Business Attraction** – Continued outreach to attract retail and 3rd Place businesses to our commercial districts on the ground level.
 - c. **Development Incentives** – research what is available in a community that is not low/mod/CDBG eligible to assist business/property owners with commercial investments.
 - d. **Support Active Park Use at McNeilly Park** – The EDC acknowledges the invest made by Mt. Lebanon to acquire ~23 acres of woodland on our northern border. The EDC would like to see this asset capitalized on with the installation of trails, signage and appropriate parking amenities.
 - e. **Monitor Progress of Residential Projects** – Robust residential markets mean robust commercial districts. The EDC will continue to monitor and support appropriate residential development to positively impact our commercial corridors.
 - f. **Continue to Use the Comprehensive Plan + Uptown Strategic Plans** – It is essential that the EDC utilize these 'crowdsourced' documents to inform our focus.
- IX. **2019 Pillar/Work Plan** –
 - a. **Impact Development** – No report.
 - b. **Business Attraction + Retention** – Staff informed EDC new business start-up activity.
 - c. **Public Realm** – Please see above.
 - d. **Place Making** – Mt. Lebanon Artists' Market was held on September 21 and 22. It was a great success.
 - e. **Parking Advisory Board Update** – No report.
- X. **Adjourn** – Joe Kramer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by John Vogel.