

Vernon Township Economic Development Committee

June 20, 2023, Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

Statement of Compliance was read by Sally Rinker

Salute to the Flag

In Attendance -

Sally Rinker Chairperson - present

Jennifer Lubliner Vice-Chairperson - present

Michael Gelfand - absent

Jason Pierce - present

Beth Ziba - present

Carl Contino - present

Keren Gonen - absent

Nick Pirro - absent

Susan Berkley - present

Peter knipe - present

Heidi LeBris - present

A Motion to approve May 16, 2023 minutes was made by Carl Contino and second by Beth Ziba. All in favor.

A presentation power point of the Western Highlands Scenic Byway was presented by Suzanne Ishee. Ms. Ishee is the Director of NJIT Hub for Creative Placemaking and has been involved in the efforts to establish the Byway for years. She spoke to the history of the application for the Byway and the fact that this scenic byway traverses Vernon and Hardyston and is a beneficial amenity for our community as it relates to economic development. The members of the EDC asked questions and recognized the importance of this amenity in our town.

Susan Berkley reported a status update of the EDC Community Survey. She stated that the survey should close by July 31st to allow time for compiling the data to be analyzed by the Committee.

The Committee discussed the preparation for the council meeting EDC presentation on July 10th. It was decided the social media policy, drafted by the EDC, would be presented for the second time. An announcement about the Community Survey would include where to find it, urge participation, and that it will close on July 31st. The Guide-How to Open a Business in Vernon will be presented to the council and state where to find it on the town website. Inform the council that recommendations are being worked on to amend the sign ordinance.

Public Participation -

Carl Contino made the motion to open the meeting to the public, second by Susan Berkley. All were in favor.

There were no members of the public wanting to comment.

A motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Carl Contino, second by Beth Ziba. All were in favor.

Committee member comments -

Jen Lubliner gave a report concerning DECA and that we should start the process earlier next year. On September 17, 2023, Sussex County Day at the Fairgrounds should have representation by our committee.

Jen Lubliner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Carl Contino. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Rinker

