

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
June 16, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Gary Grasso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held virtually on the Microsoft Teams platform.

ROLL CALL: **Present:** Mayor Gary Grasso, Trustee Tony Schiappa, Leslie Bowman, Bhagwan Sharma, Mark Stangle, Paul Stettin, Sam Odeh, Debbie Hamilton, and Kirsten Jepsen

Absent: Ramzi Hassan and Michael Simmons

Also Present: Village Administrator Doug Pollock, Assistant Village Administrator Evan Walter, Communications & Public Relations Coordinator Janet Kowal, and Management Analyst Andrez Beltran

MINUTES: A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Schiappa to approve the Minutes from the May 6, 2020 meeting. The **MOTION** was seconded by Mr. Sharma and approved by a vote of 9-0.

UPDATE REGARDING OUTDOOR DINING PROGRAM

Mayor Grasso asked for an update regarding the outdoor dining program in the Village. Mr. Walter said that the outdoor tents had been a resounding success to date, with all participating restaurants reporting stronger than normal per-table sales as well as overwhelmingly positive feedback being received from the community. Mr. Walter noted that some restaurants had expressed interest in keeping their tents up all summer, while others were interested in investing in either establishing or expanding an outdoor dining presence at their restaurant, such as Patti's and Falco's. Trustee Schiappa agreed with the sentiment of the restaurants and the community about the quality of the tent sites. Ms. Jepsen and Mr. Odeh reiterated Trustee Schiappa's remarks.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF VILLAGE CENTER DEVELOPMENT

Mayor Grasso asked for continued discussion of the Village Center and the future of the property, noting that he felt now was the time to re-engage TCF about their site and to determine what could go on said parcel. Mr. Walter said that it was his feeling that the Village needed to have a clearer understanding as to how all properties in the downtown would work together and complement each other before concrete development plans are drawn up. Mr. Walter said that the Village did not have enough information to make a determination as to what they should look to attract, lest they end up rejecting multiple concepts and the market would grow frustrated. Trustee Schiappa and Mr. Stangle agreed that entertainment concepts should be considered for Village Center and that the Village should focus on achieving success at the property since it is already developed. There was consensus that the Village Center should be oriented to drive use taxes to the Village. Mr. Walter said that he and Mr. Beltran had engaged Mr. Hassan in preliminary discussions about new strategies for Village Center and would bring back suggestions at future meetings which built upon the committee's direction.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

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No other considerations were brought forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Schiappa made the **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting to July 1, 2020; **SECONDED** by Ms. Hamilton. **APPROVED 9-0**. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

EVAN B WALTER

Evan Walter
Assistant Village Administrator