



PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 - 8:30 AM
Virtual Webex Meeting

Call Meeting to Order

Jen Greenberg, Chair
Bill Haskins, Trustee
Olivia Lewis-Chang, Trustee
Anthony Greci, Construction Official
Greer Patras, Zoning Official-**Absent**
Julie Doran, Village Administrator
Melissa Hodge, SO Downtown Executive Director
Joycelyn White, Recording Secretary

Approval of Minutes

July 18, 2023

The July 18, 2023 meeting minutes were approved by committee members present.

Reports

Code Enforcement Report- Mr. Greci

Mr. Greci reported on the following:

- 24 Second Street
- 4th & Valley Update
- New Code Enforcement Officer
- FT Fire Prevention Officer

In response to Trustee Greenberg, Mr. Greci will follow up on the two properties (Great Hills Road, 170 Glenview and Montague) that are being rehabbed. Due to the neighborhood concern, the committee discussed working with the Health Department to follow up as well.

In response to Ms. Hodge regarding 4th & Valley, Ms. Doran stated that the property will be before the Planning Board but not to address the parking. In response to Trustee Lewis-Chang regarding student housing and fire escapes, Mr. Greci explained the inspection process.



Administrator Report- Ms. Doran

Ms. Doran reported on the following:

- Seton Hall Meeting- Ms. Doran thanked all the attendees and stated that she was working with Mrs. Patras on follow up items such as, posting a list of registered rental units with property owners information to the village website and lease information. Lastly, Ms. Doran discussed the next follow up is for Seton Hall to close the gate. The main focus is to support the neighbors of Seton Hall University in any way.
- 270 Irvington Avenue Update- Ms. Doran discussed the redevelopment agreement which has expired but their attorney has reached out to get the agreement extended. Due to the outstanding escrow fees, the agreement cannot be extended until those fees are taken care of.
- Historic Preservation Ordinance Update- The Draft is still in the review process and Ms. Doran would like to present and present the ordinance at the next meeting.

South Orange Downtown Report- Ms. Hodge

Ms. Hodge reported on the following:

- Downtown on Display recap
 - South Orange Food Stroll
 - Fall Festival- October 1, 2023
 - Fashion Show- October 5, 2023
 - Annual Business Networking Event
 - Seton Hall "Welcome Back" weekend
 - New Downtown shopping map
 - Beyond the Gates Event
 - Small Business Saturday/ Holiday Market- December 7,14, 21.
 - Halloween Festival- October 29, 2023
 - Hometown Holiday weekend event- December 9, 10.
 - Facade Grant Update
- Ashley Market
- McGlean Salon
- 125 South Orange Avenue (Brazilian Cafeteria) - New name and concept called La Grill
 - Pirates pizza has closed and the owners of Miti Miti will open a new Greek restaurant.
 - Co-Lab Update



Ms. Hodge announced that South Orange Downtown was awarded Excellence in Place Making for the village plaza triangle project by Downtown NJ. The ceremony is October 19, 2023.

New Business

Tree Ordinance

Mr. Kurzenberger discussed the tree ordinance review. The Ordinance includes information regarding removal, fewer exemptions, rigorous fee and penalty regime, specific replacement requirements. In response to Ms. Doran, Mr. Kurzenberger explained that the draft ordinance includes language regarding the Shade Tree Commission as a sub-committee of the Environmental Commission but the Shade Tree Commission can be established by ordinance as a stand-alone commission if need be.

Impervious Coverage (see email attached from frequent customer of the Zoning Office)

Impervious coverage will be discussed at the next meeting on October 17, 2023.

Cottage Food Licenses

Cottage food license will be discussed at the next meeting on October 17, 2023.

Old Business

Pre-Application Meetings

There was no pre-application meeting discussed.

Next Meeting Date

October 17, 2023

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Joycelyn White, Recording Secretary