

# Meeting Notes

## 20/20 Economic Development Sub-Committee

Time and date: 7:30 AM, Monday, June 13, 2011

Location: Town Hall Room 101

Attendees: Keith Bennett, John Guastella, George Leveille, Joe Richardson,

Elected Officials/Staff present: Sam Messina, Mike Morelli, Terry Ritz, Robin Nagengast

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- 1. Review of May 9, 2011 Meeting Notes:** The meeting notes were accepted.
  - 2. SYID/CSX outreach:** Keith Bennett reported out on a meeting he, Terry Ritz, and Sam Messina had with Patricia Byrne, Director Industrial Development at CSX, where a “southern” bypass alternative to a new Thruway interchange was discussed. George Leveille recommended a Comp Plan update that would allow opportunities for creating new hamlets along the new bypass option. Next steps are to identify the appropriate individual (s) to lead the conversation.
  - 3. Vista Tech Campus update:** The Public Hearing on the bond issuance is scheduled for June 13 at 6:00 PM. The bond resolution approval is on the agenda for a Special Meeting of the IDA scheduled for June 16. The construction bids were reviewed June 9 and August Bohl Contracting had the lowest bid. Phase 1A has been approved by the Planning Board. Phase 1B is pending before the Planning Board. The groundbreaking is TBD.
  - 4. Town-wide economic development partnership update:** George Leveille presented a schematic he created showing how the partnership would work and the PILOT funds would flow. The next step is to set up a meeting with the superintendent of Ravenna Coeymans Selkirk School District to present the partnership concept.
  - 5. Commercial district adaptive reuse strategies:** George Leveille reviewed the key findings of research of best practices related to commercial district adaptive reuse strategies. Mike Morelli is going to help provide context for the Town of Bethlehem. The plan is to present to the Town Board after presenting to the full 20/20 Committee on June 23.
  - 6. Other:** John Guastella discussed his concept for façade improvements for the Four Corners area of Delaware Avenue. Other short term economic development/improvement priorities discussed were the Picotte Building on New Scotland Road, Delaware Plaza, the Beacon Harbor area on Route 144, and area surrounding Mount Moriah Church on Route 9W. The next steps are to develop the broader strategy and then bring it to the Bethlehem IDA for discussion.
  - 7. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the sub-committee is scheduled for Monday, July 11, at 7:30 AM in Town Hall.