

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Task Force (EDTF) was held tonight. Members in attendance were: David Cohen, Fred Milbert, Ken Mirksy, David Kratzer, Jonathan Essoka. Guest present: Sif Malik. Staff present: Alyson Elliott, Assistant Township Manager.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Mr. Cohen called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Approval of the minutes for the October 20, 2015, meeting was tabled until the next meeting as a quorum was not present.
3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

A. Design – Signage Applications.

- 1) *24 East Glenside Ave., Glenside for G. C. Brewers Restaurant & Brewery* – Mr. Kratzer explained that the applicant's sign is constructed of reclaimed wood and does not have any external or internal lighting. Mr. Milbert commented that the applicant should include a property address somewhere on the building in accordance with Township regulations, if it is not located on the sign. Mr. Milbert also requested the applicant have a business license before being granted the Certificate of Appropriateness.

Action: Upon motion of Mr. Kratzer and seconded by Mr. Milbert, it was the consensus of those present (a quorum was not present) to recommend to the Planning & Zoning Department that a Certificate of Appropriateness be issued for the wall sign at 24 East Glenside Avenue, provide the applicant provide a property address visible from the street in accordance with the Township's regulations in an appropriate location on the property.

B. Organization & Development – None.

C. Economic Restructuring – None.

D. Marketing & Promotions – None.

E. Liaison Reports

- 1) *Elkins Park East* – Mr. Cohen reported that the Creekside Co-Op hired a new general manager as part of its restructuring process. The new manager from New Jersey will start next month. Mr. Cohen also noted that the Rail Stop property on Spring Avenue has been vacating for more than a year. There was an offer on it that fell through and he asked members to help promote it.
- 2) *Glenside District* – None.
- 3) *East Cheltenham Avenue* – None.
- 4) *Cheltenham Village* – None.

5) *Elkins Park West* – None.

6) *West Cheltenham Avenue* – None.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.** Mr. Cohen announced that this would be his last meeting with the EDTF as he has been elected to serve on the School Board. He will be starting his term on December 8, 2015, and will be submitting his letter of resignation from the EDTF in the next week. He thanked staff and the members of the EDTF for their support and work on the EDTF.

Mr. Essoka arrived at the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

5. **OLD BUSINESS.**

- A. **Old York Road Community Organization (OYRCO) – Elkins Park Train Station Landscape Project.** The first phase of the landscape project occurred November 7, with more than 20 volunteers helping to install new landscaping to the outbound side of the Elkins Park Train Station. Mr. Cohen reported that he visited the site and was impressed with the scope of the project and the steepness of the slope that was planted. Mr. Essoka said the project was more than a year in the planning and included a significant amount of coordination with SEPTA and other stakeholders to make it a success. It is incumbent on the OYRCO to demonstrate to SEPTA that it will maintain and operate the improvements for the long-term. If they are successful in the maintenance and operation of the current improvements, they will be able to continue on with the next phase. Mr. Essoka said he hopes to increase the number of volunteers and fundraising for the next phase.
- B. **Update on Draft Zoning Ordinance Review.** Mr. Cohen reported that the second Zoning Ordinance public workshop meeting was held on November 16, 2015 to discuss the proposed commercial, industrial and overlay districts. Attendance at both the first and second meetings was good. A number of good comments were received and discussion ranged from points of clarification to thematic and philosophical discussions. Commissioner Sharkey suggested amending the zoning map to include most or all of Easton Road in Glenside in a Mixed Use district, rather than a commercial district to disallow driveway-centric design and encourage ground floor commercial with upper story residential uses. There was also discussion on expanding the sustainability bonuses to additional districts and reviewing the recommended sustainable measures to make sure they are meaningful and objective enough to offset the additional density bonuses. The third and final workshop is scheduled for December 17, 2015, from 6-9 p.m., which will focus on the mixed use districts and map boundaries.
- C. **Update on Way Finding Signage for Elkins Park East Commercial District.** Ms. Elliott reported that she and Mr. Havir will be meeting with the consultant to

go over final sign design and locations. Mr. Cohen said he plans to meet with them to provide his input on design and locations, as well.

D. Status Report on Elkins Park West Streetscape and Traffic Calming Project.

Ms. Elliott reported that she and Mr. Havir met with PennDOT at the District Offices to go over increased right-of-way requirements, which are required by the Federal Highway Administration for federal grant projects. This project is funded by a \$1 Million grant through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). The increased right-of-way requirements will require a reduction in the scope of improvements in order to accommodate the additional consultant costs. The project is otherwise on schedule.

E. Clothing Bins. Mr. Milbert asked if any progress has been made on citing properties who have them up. Ms. Elliott reported that she believes several locations have been cited, but does not know the outcome.

6. **NEW BUSINESS** – None.
7. **STAFF REPORT** – None.
8. **CITIZENS' FORUM** – None.
9. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business, Mr. Cohen adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.



Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

Submitted by: Alyson Elliott