

Mt Airy, MD Economic Development Commission – 26 May 2021

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance - 7:03PM

Roll Call

In Attendance:

- Josiah Timmerman
- Dan McNeill
- Donnamarie Needle
- Darlene Davidson-Union
- Mike VanSant
- Pamela Reed (Town Council)
- Karl Munder (Town Council)

Others in Attendance:

- Melissa Thorn (Town of Mt Airy)
- Tony Burke (Mt Airy Messenger)
- Alice Settle-Raskin (MAMSA)
- John Breeding (Town of Mt Airy)

Approval of March Minutes

- Seconded and approved by Commission members

Town Council Updates – Karl Munder

- Provide updates on Town elections – A Mayor and two new council members were elected on 15 May.

Community Development Updates

– Melissa Thorn (Town of Mt Airy)

- Town Hall is now open, and the EDC can resume in-person meetings next month
- The I (heart) Mt Airy show took place this week, and featured Executive Producer John Davis of MotorWeek. They discussed Mt Airy's electric vehicle charging stations.
- Bank Brews, and Cars & Coffee events are scheduled for the last Sunday in May
- The Lions Club Carnival will take place between 7-12 June at the Fire Department Carnival Grounds.
- The American Spirit Weekend will take place in Mt Airy, featuring fireworks, a parade, and flag ceremony
- **John Breeding:** A master plan meeting will take place at 6PM on 3 June.

Partner Updates

– Alice Settle-Raskin (MAMSA)

- MAMSA's elections will take place June 21st. Individuals may be nominated by emailing info@mountairymainstreet.org
- Currently working with \$32,000 left from their recently awarded grant, and are purchasing ads in the Mt Airy Messenger, as well as Cable TV and Radio.
- A gift card promotion will take place at the Downtown Farmers Market beginning 2 June.
- MAMSA is beginning an initiative to keep track of the status of buildings and commercial spaces downtown.

Old Business

- (Pamela Reed) The Brand Ambassador Program has identified 60% of the ambassadors needed to round out the program. There is a kick-off meeting the week after next, after which responsibility of the program will be passed to Karl Munder.
- (Melissa Thorn) The recent Grant (Building a Better Future Business Grant) was given to the Town Attorney, who recommended sending it to the Town Council. Donnamarie suggested that the EDC all look at a final draft of the Grant for approval at the June meeting before putting it on the Council agenda.
- (Donnamarie Needle) Donnamarie provided a recap of the Master Plan Matrix meeting. Mike Vansant expressed concern over the 1st floor retail provision. After some further discussion, a motion was approved to revise the language pertaining to that provision, clarifying that it is just a suggestion.

New Business

- (Melissa Thorn) The Town Code requires that an annual report be provided by each town commission. Josiah Timmerman was chosen to undertake this task and will provide a draft by 1 July.
- (Donnamarie Needle) EDC elections will be held at the June meeting. A Chairperson and Secretary will be nominated and selected.

Public Comment

- Nothing to note

Motion to adjourn, Seconded at 8:08 PM. Next meeting is 23 June at 7:00PM at Mt Airy Town Hall