

Borough of West Reading
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 8, 2024

Committee Members Present

Philip Wert, Chair
Dean Murray, Borough Manager
Nick Price, WRCRF Manager

Samantha Kaag
Robin Horman
Chad Moyer

Staff Present

Stephanie Burkholder

Visitors Present

Dan Horman

Call to Order

Mr. Wert called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion made by Mrs. Horman and seconded by Mr. Price to approve the minutes of December 11, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

Residential Properties Update

Mr. Wert didn't have anything new to report. Mr. Moyer did advise that trends are continuing, and homes that are up for sale seem to be sitting a little longer.

West Reading Commercial Properties Update

- 400 Penn – Winnie Mochi, opening in Spring 2024.
- 428 Penn – Noodle, restaurant had closed recently. There is a lease agreement with someone new.
- 433 Penn – Schweitzer's Service Center, moving in a positive direction. No other information available.
- 450 Penn – Vivi Bubble Tea, opening date is TBD.
- 611 Penn – Refillable Goods will be closing in February.
- 12A S 5th – Tinsel & Twig is looking for another location. May be looking at the former Coral Reef location.
- 632 Penn – A consignment shop or craft store may be going here.
- 547 Penn – Jujitsu establishment will be opening, date TBD.

Strategic Planning Discussion

- Wyomissing Report – Mr. Wert advised that Michele Bare didn't have anything to report, but that there were some upcoming projects in the works.

Strategic Planning Next Steps

1. Design Standards – Mr. Wert advised that work is still being done with Derck and Edson and this may take another six months to complete.
2. BID Update – There was nothing to report.

Old/New Business

Railroad Bridge – Mr. Price advised that he was at a meeting recently with the Executive Director of Googleworks and advised that the lettering on the bridge was discussed and how they would like this to be done. The Executive Director will provide an update in early February.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m. Motion made by Ms. Kaag and seconded by Ms. Horman.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Burkholder
Administrative Clerk