



**BURLINGTON COUNTY**  
**Chamber of Commerce**  
*The Voice of Business*

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## **Economic Development Committee**

### **Minutes**

**March 26, 2013**

2013 Objectives - Promote & Manage Buy Local Campaign, Engage Municipalities, Workforce Development and ID what makes us a valued economic development resource for business & municipalities

*Attendees: Fred Aiken, Dan Caldwell, Becky Corbin, Dennis Devery, Jaimie Geddes, Joanne Giannndrea, Marci Goldshlack, Stephan Gregory, Sheila Harris-Adams, Brian Kamp, Frank Keith (Frank K), Kristina Kohl, Jay Kruse, Frank Locantore (Frank L), Darlene Scocca, Betty Ann Shepard, Joe Skwara, Michelle Taylor, Barbara Urban, Michael Willmann*

- 1. Welcome & Introductions** – The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jay Kruse at 8:02 and introductions were made.
  
- 2. Summits – Spring & Fall**
  - a. It was agreed that there would be two summits for 2013 highlighting a couple of towns which are growing in both commercial and residential categories with discussions on industries if applicable.
    - i. **Spring Details** – May 28th was selected to work on the Chamber calendar. The event would be an 8:00 am to 11:00 am event with a continental breakfast and networking. Speakers would be selected in relationship to the towns that are selected. Dan suggested that it would be similar to how the ICSC Our Town Program is set up. Frank L suggested that towns be selected that have a connection with other outside areas. It was suggested to have one larger community and one with a walkable town. Darlene reminded the Committee that the Freeholders did a study on just this subject matter with Angelo Alberto who worked on the areas located between the areas of Wood Street in Burlington to the town of Cinnaminson. Kris suggested that since the Buy Local Campaign is just about ready to be launched it would be more practical to start off showing more walkable towns. Jay and others suggested staying with the River towns (Cinnaminson, Florence and Burlington Township). Michelle suggested that some towns support other towns such as Medford supports Southampton, maybe select towns with that common denominator. After discussion, initial possibility for towns included Florence, Burlington Township, Bordentown City, Burlington City, which provides for a grouping of towns in a geographical region of the County. Dan stated that the two major growth components for any town are residential real estate and healthcare. It was suggested that someone call each

municipalities' administrator and see what size facility they have to host one of these meetings if their town was selected. Joe suggested that we do something with Northern Burlington Chamber since the initial towns are in that region of the County and the committee thought that was a good idea. Dan suggested we get with commercial real estate brokers and see who has large vacant sites where we could hold the meetings. Other market sectors to be considered would be logistics and finance and Darlene suggested Mark Mankuf with NFI and Betty Shepard suggested Ken Lufkin of 3<sup>rd</sup> Fed Bank. For life and health, it was suggested someone from Bollinger's Insurance Solutions or Robert Wood Johnson.

### **3. Objective Update**

- a. Engage Municipalities – It was agreed to try to engage more municipalities with more Summits. It was suggested that perhaps the Chamber could offer municipalities memberships that were or could be free to attract more community officials. Both Barbara and Jaimie informed the Committee that this was done in the past under funds from the Freeholders and only 8 of the 40 municipalities even responded to the offer. This option is no longer available.
- b. Workforce Development – Becky reported that there was a Job Fair scheduled for April 12 with the College and the county working together.

### **4. Next Meeting – April 23, 2013**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02.

These minutes were prepared by Barbara Urban

JK 4/2/13

KHI 4/3/13