

Ridgely E.D.C. Meeting Minutes October 8, 2008

The October meeting of the Ridgely Economic Development Commission was called to order by John Balderson at 6:44 P.M. In Attendance were Joe Mangini, John Balderson, Brenda Walls, Jerry Sutton and Sara Wright.

Approval of the Minutes:

Minutes for September 10, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved following a motion to approve; made by Brenda, seconded by Jerry.

Town Manager's Time:

DBED Grants Review:

Local Revolving Loan Fund:

Joe called Secretary Edgerly for a status update on Ridgely's loan application, but could not reach him. He is expecting a phone call back from Mr. Edgerly.

Strategic Economic Development Revitalization Plan:

Ridgely will put the plan on hold until funding is available.

New Business Opportunities/ Ventures/ Concerns:

Subway Shopping Center:

Subway is open and doing well. Brenda said that Subway is not hurting her business at the Ridgely Pharmacy Ice Cream Parlor.

A Redbrick Pizza is planned to open in unit next to Subway, and Queenstown Bank will open on the opposite end. Brenda asked if Joe thought Ridgely could support three (3) banks. Joe said he thought that the Town could, and Jerry discussed Centreville National Bank's possible relocation to Eveland Road, just outside of town.

Municipal Capital Projects Review:

WWTP Phase I Upgrade:

Upgrades to Ridgely's Wastewater Treatment Plant are scheduled to begin October 20, 2008.

Gazebo Project:

Construction of the gazebo in Martin Sutton Park will begin on October 9, 2008.

Rails to Trails:

The Ridgely Rails to Trails project will soon be going out for bid.

Old Business:

Business Directional Sign:

Joanne was not available to report on progress; Joe said it is still being worked out.

After Hours Social:

The upcoming E.D.C. Business After-Hours Social, on November 12, 2008, will focus on the possible start of a Business Association in the greater Ridgely area. Mr. John Nusseur of the Caroline County Chamber of Commerce will be speaking at the event, as well as the President of Greensboro's Business Association, Richard Harfeld.

Refreshments for the social were briefly discussed. Members agreed it would be best to have "finger foods". John said Ms. Carol volunteered to make meatballs for the social and Jerry said he would bring sodas. Sara will be the point person for refreshments.

New Business:

USDA Opportunities:

USDA inspected the Ridgely Wastewater Treatment Plant; Joe said the inspection went well. Joe and Joanne met with USDA after the inspection to discuss a program that Joe is interested in for Ridgely. With this program, through USDA Rural Development, USDA will help fund and support an employee who helps with Economic Development in the Town.

Commission Roundtable Discussion:

Brenda questioned the status of the Carriage House. Joe replied, saying that Mike Peters of Mike's Custom Homes has asked for a demolition permit for the Carriage House. Mr. Peters will have to go before the Ridgely Planning and Zoning Commission on October 22nd to get approval. JOK Walsh had already tried twice, and failed, to get grants to save the house. Jerry said that he thought since the Carriage House had been in the newspaper so much recently, that if anyone had the money and desire to move the house, they would have come forward already.

Brenda asked when Kathy Smith would be opening her house for business, and what it would be. Joe said it is due to open on October 15, 2008 and will be a consignment and gift shop.

Next Meeting:

November 12, 2008.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 P.M.