

Bloomington Economic Development Commission (EDC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 04/22/2021

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

Present:

- John Graziano
- Elisa Kolenut
- Mike Rudge
- Michele Reynolds
- Jennifer Ellis
- Farah Sayyed
- Lisa Bendel
- Steven Pardalis

Absent:

- Suzanne Osborne
- Dominic Catalano
- Theresa Merino

Meeting Discussion:

- Treasurer Report
 - Budget has not been approved yet.
 - EDC funds have been spent for the “Taste of Bloomington” restaurant initiative.
- Restaurant Initiative
 - Elisa Kolenut has replenished hole punch cards at eateries in town and ordered stamps for punch cards, as the hole punches weren’t big enough.
 - Facebook ad was boosted by Jen Ellis.
 - Elisa Kolenut to ask about adding the initiative to the digital signs in front of Borough Hall and Fire Dept. on Union Ave.
- Bloomington Town Pride Day – Sept. 25, 2021 – Rain Date: Sept. 26, 2021
 - EDC has been asked to help with planning and day of set up for Bloomington Town Pride Day 2021.
 - Possibility of adding a smaller “Touch a Truck” event – Mike Rudge to help organize this.
 - John Graziano to reach out to Mike Sondermeyer about “Touch a Truck” social distancing protocol.
 - Jen Ellis to keep list of vendors who would like to participate and creating ad & event on Facebook to generate interest.
 - Pixie Pop confirmed availability
 - Michele Reynolds to ask Claim to Fame if they’d like to participate
 - John Graziano to invite Mike Sondermeyer to next EDC meeting in May to speak about further details of Town Pride Day.
- Legalization of Marijuana
 - Committee to form with various members/residents of Bloomington to discuss details of ordinance.

- John Graziano & Steve Pardalis to represent the EDC on the committee.
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies
 - Successful ribbon cutting on 4/10 for *Party Spot NJ*.
 - *Jazzercise* ribbon cutting on May 8th at 11:30am.
 - *Jazzercise* to have a class demonstration in Sloan Park prior to ribbon cutting.
 - EDC to create Facebook event to generate interest.
 - *Brothers Auto Hunt*
 - Ribbon cutting TBD.
 - New Business *Sacred Ink* to open in Riverside Square.
 - Ribbon Cutting TBD
 - New Business *Magpie Bakery* in Riverside Square
 - Owner plans to have business open for August 2021.
 - Michele Reynolds will reach out to follow up closer to August.
- Social Media
 - Facebook ad boosted for “Taste of Bloomingdale” restaurant initiative.
 - Jen Ellis & Michele Reynolds to work on shop local social media call to action with “theme days” to shop at specific types of retailers.
- Sloan Park Summer Concert Series
 - EDC to help with sponsorships for new Sloan Park Summer Concert Series
 - Concerts will be held the second Friday of July, August & September 2021.
 - Various genres and bands to be booked
 - Lina’s Restaurant owner Sal Pagliarulo and town resident Linda Bennett to coordinate event and are currently looking for local business sponsorships.
 - Rudge Automotive interested in sponsorship.