

January Meeting Minutes

Date: January 9, 2024

Guests: Linda D'Arco

Key Discussion Points and Actions:

1. Strategic Business Operations Enhancement for Linda D'Arco:
 1. Identified the need for infrastructural improvements including:
 1. Enhanced road access for delivery trucks.
 2. Establishment of climate-controlled storage facilities.
 3. Integration of a greenhouse.
 4. Expansion of workspace.
 2. Discussed formulating a mix of local, state, and financial incentives to support the business expansion.
2. DEC Smart Growth Initiative Compliance:
 1. Highlighted the importance of adhering to the Smart Growth principles.
 2. Noted the pending grant submissions deadline and anticipated award announcements in March.
 3. Aimed for project completion within two years, reducing from the projected three years.
 4. Outlined essential steps including plan refinement, land utilization and housing viability assessment, and strategic public engagement scheduling.
 5. Collaboration with PRIDE to facilitate streamlined project execution.
3. NYMS Technical Assistance Initiative Updates:
 1. Detailed action roadmap including:
 1. Environmental assessments.
 2. Project scope reevaluations for re-bidding.
 3. Contractor selection processes.
 4. Engagement with property stakeholders.
 5. Identification of priority structures.
 6. Downtown community forum facilitation.
 2. Recommended exploring additional grant funding opportunities to enhance project financing and business owner grant application participation.
4. Chamber of Commerce vs. Business Association Establishment:
 1. Discussed the formation and distinction between a robust Chamber of Commerce and a Business Association.
 2. Emphasized support for the local business ecosystem through:
 1. Technological support.
 2. Marketing strategies.
 3. Insurance solutions.
 4. Community development strategies.
 5. Workforce empowerment initiatives.
 6. Free job posting avenues.
 3. Invited Matt from TACC to share his experiences and insights at the next session, promoting an inclusive and supportive community environment.

This meeting underscored the committee's commitment to fostering economic development and business growth in the Town of Jay, through strategic planning, collaboration, and targeted support for local businesses like Linda D'Arco's.