

**APPROVED**  
**Economic Development Council**  
**MINUTES**

December 19, 2014  
Mt. Lebanon Historical Society  
794 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228  
7:30 A.M.

**In attendance:**

Cheri Acrey, Blaine Lucas, Elaine Evosevic-Lozada, Bob Hagerty Dale Cowher, Ray Giarrusso, Joel Clusky, Rebecca Wanovich

**Absent:** *Euclid Noble*, Joel Cluskey, Rick Sabeh, Commissioner Bendel  
**Commission Liaison:** Bendel

**Guest Speaker:** None

**Staff:** Eric Milliron

- I. **Call to Order:** Blaine Lucas called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.
- II. **Citizen's Comments:** Jim Wojcik, Board President of the Mt. Lebanon Historical Society toured the EDC through the planned Historical Society building. Mr. Wojcik highlighted renovations and programming planned in the future facility.
- III. **Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2014:**  
October 31, 2014 minutes were reviewed. Cheri Acrey made a motion to approve. Seconded by Ray Giarrusso.
- IV. **Pillar Review**
  - a. Impact Development –
    - i. Staff updated the EDC about the Municipality's extension of the buyback provision at the Zamigias site. The Commission is granting the extension. Zamigias presented at the last Commission meeting their plans to revisit a townhome style project at the site. They will come back to the Commission in April 2015 with an update.
    - ii. The EDC continued the discussion on engaging developers at key sites throughout the Municipality. It is the intention of the EDC to invite said developers to the EDC to 1. Provide updates 2. Explore why development has not happened 3. Explore how we can work cooperatively with development community to move projects forward. The EDC will work out whom to invite in early 2015.
    - iii. The Commission awarded the Commercial Districts Office with an allocation of \$14,000 to conduct a strategic plan for the Uptown Central Business District (CBD). The last plan was developed in 1995. Staff feels strongly that now is the time to revisit the current

state of Washington Road and plan for its short and long term future. This plan will inform how best to keep Washington Road vibrant and relevant to the Municipality. Further discussion will take place in 1Q of 2015.

- b. Business Attraction + Retention
    - i. Business Updates – Staff discussed discussion concerning potential new businesses in the Uptown District.
    - ii. Hotel Update – Staff updated the EDC that the Kratsa feels strongly that they will be open before the New Year.
  - c. Public Realm – Staff updated EDC about the development of a bid package for sidewalk replacement along Beverly Road in the business district. Staff expects a bid announcement in the 1Q of 2015.
  - d. Place Making – Staff discussed the concept of a joint marketing initiative to tie Uptown to downtown Pittsburgh via the light rail. Downtown’s residential market is growing with an attractive demographic that should be made aware that our businesses are a one way train ride via light rail. Currently there is no strategy to advertise ourselves to this market.
- V. Other Business** – None.
- VI. Adjourn** – Cheri Acrey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9 a.m. Dale Cowher seconded the motion. Pass unanimously.