

MEETING MINUTES
Economic Community Affairs Committee (ECA)
Dutchess County Economic Development Corporation
Monday, August 8, 2010

Present: Barry Rothfeld (*Chair*), Betsy Eismeier, Barbara Kram, William Lavery, Kelly Libolt, Lisa Morris, Robert Rolison, and Kathleen Schibanoff

Staff: Pamela Balga, Jasmin Haylett, and John MacEnroe

Excused: Michael Arnoff, Steve Cole, Kathleen Durham, Michael McCormack, Donald McGrath, Jason Page, Betsy Seaman Brown, Tom Sipos, and Jennifer Van Tuyl

Call to Order and Welcome

Barry Rothfeld, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Discussions

◆ Remaining Board Meeting

Date: Thursday, October 28, 2010

Time: 7:45 a.m.

Location: Hosted by Jason Page at the Poughkeepsie Journal Building Plaza

Host/Speaker: John Tkazyik, Mayor of Poughkeepsie

Topic: Downtown Redevelopment

◆ Annual Board Meeting in 2011

The EDC Annual Board meeting for 2011 is scheduled for Thursday, January 27 at Locust Grove on the Samuel Morse Estate located at 2683 South Road, Poughkeepsie, NY. A speaker has not been selected yet. John MacEnroe suggested a possible speaker might be someone from the innovation and/or technology industry.

Other suggested topic(s) are:

- Education, perhaps focusing on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

◆ Business Excellence Awards (BEAs)

John MacEnroe reported that:

- The date and location of the BEAs is Thursday, November 4 at The Grandview.
- Lisa Morris has agreed to chair the BEA Committee and take over the responsibilities of planning the event with Betsy Seaman Brown's assistance in regards to obtaining sponsorships.
- Health Quest will be the presenting sponsor.
- A special recognition award will be announced on the evening of the event.

- The BEA Selection Committee met and selected award recipients for the following categories:
 - **Innovation** – LiteGreen (the company that helped light the Walkway - allows us to bring some Walkway honors in without giving “another” honor to the Walkway itself)
 - **Small Business** – Craig Thomas Pest Control (one of the few community nominations that fit nicely)
 - **Manufacturing** – SpectraWatt
 - **Agriculture** – Red Devon Restaurant in Stanfordville (owner has own farm to raise local food for the restaurant)
 - **Entrepreneur** – Page Park
 - **Not for Profit** – Dutchess County Arts Council
 - **Tourism** – Rhinebeck (honoring the Town & Village for such great PR work during the Clinton wedding)
 - **Grand Prize Winner** – IBM (focusing on their innovations) will be will be announced at least 1-2 weeks ahead of the event, allowing more time for additional ticket sales.
- Publicity for each award winner will start after August 30.

Lisa Morris reported that she will be meeting with Brent Caster from The Grandview to discuss various options for the BEA event cocktail hour. She mentioned that the committee is considering making some changes to the program. Some suggestions are:

- Give guests a dessert as they leave the event, rather than a served, sit-down dessert.
- Do a short video presentation for each category/winner in an effort to tighten up the program and cut down on acceptance speech time.
- Extend the cocktail hour vs. doing a full sit-down dinner.
- Do all the networking/food service during the cocktail hour and set up the presentation room in auditorium style.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next ECA committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. in the EDC Conference Room.