

MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN CITIZENS ADVISORY PANEL
 October 15, 2007 AT 6:00 P.M.
 12th FLOOR - H. LEE DENNISON BUILDING

Representatives Attending:

| <u>DISTRICT</u> | <u>LEGISLATOR</u> | <u>REPRESENTATIVE</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Edward P. Romaine | Ramond Pinkergill |
| 2 | Jay H. Schneiderman | Susan Von Freddi |
| 5 | <u>Vivian M. Viloría-Fisher</u> | Barbara Russell |
| 6 | Daniel P. Losquadro | Michael Poveromo |
| 7 | Jack Eddington | Cafer 'Joff' Sahin |
| 8 | William J. Lindsay | Kay Cameron |
| 10 | <u>Cameron Alden</u> | Robert Kuri |
| 11 | Thomas F. Barraga | Donna DeLuca Periconi |
| 12 | John Kennedy | Mario Gino |
| 13 | Lynne C. Nowick | William Garthe |
| 17 | Louis D'Amaro | Jennifer A. Casey |
| 18 | * Jon Cooper | Thomas D'Ambrosio |
| | Planning | Peter Lambert |
| | <u>SCDPW</u> | Paul Mihan |

Representatives Absent

| | | |
|----|------------------------|--------------------|
| 3 | Kate M. Browning | Susan Wischhusen |
| 4 | Joseph T. Caracappa | John Suriano |
| 9 | Ricardo Montano | Mohsen Elsayed |
| 14 | Wayne M. Horsley | Chris Forensicik |
| 15 | Elie Mystal | Sal Puglia |
| 16 | <u>Steven H. Stern</u> | <u>Walter Rabe</u> |

Economic Development Staff Attending

Jim Morgo, Commissioner

Carolyn Fahey, Intergovernmental Relations Coordinator

Lisa Ann Broughton, Bio Hi/Tech Development Specialist

Heidi Kowalchuk, Contracts Management Analyst

Adopted: _____

1/28/08

The meeting was opened at 6:10 P.M. by Jim Morgo. The Panel introduced themselves indicating the District they represent. Jim reviewed the letter from Steve Levy announcing his offer to allow the panel to use the applications they received in response to the traditional downtown program to recommend to him how to allocate the \$500,000 he has available in his Downtown Program. Jim announced that he will be leaving the Department of Economic Development and Workforce Housing and taking the position of Chief Deputy County Executive, therefore will not be able to chair the panel in the future.

Donna Periconi thanked Joff Sahin for the magnificent job of catering the Chamber Summit.

Carolyn gave an overview of the process for tonight's meeting and explained that we will be reviewing each application. Panel members can take this time to ask questions and make comments.

Discussion- Joff made a comment that it seems like all that is needed is to have as many letters of support as you can get and asked whether we have to know that the applicant really has the money supporting the project. Lisa said that the purpose for support letters is to show that the community supports the project. Letters of support should not be confused with other leveraged funding. Others had the same concern that letters of support is a weakness in our process as they are easily obtained. Carolyn suggested we rate the applications with and without community support. Lisa suggested we make changes to the application for next year. She recommended that a subcommittee be put together to review and make changes to the application for next year.

Susan Von Freddi suggested that next year, we may want to have well written applications be available to the groups who had weak applications this year. Carolyn said we could do that. Joff said some poorer towns may not have the resources to write good applications but are needy.

Carolyn asked for direction from the panel. The group consensus is to score with community support for this year since it was a requirement.

Questions: Can County Executive Levy or the Legislature over rule the panel decision?

Answer: Panel decisions can be over ruled since they are recommendations only, but they never have been.

Questions: Does the panel have the right not to score an application? Answer:

Consensus was that applications can just be scored low rather than not score.

Carolyn and Lisa will email answers to questions regarding applications that came up during the meeting about specific applications before the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Next meeting will be on Monday, October 22, 2007 at 6pm.