

January 28, 2014 - Dunellen NJ Transit meeting

Attendees:

Ken, Bill, Adam, Heidi, Noreen, Jason, Peg

Transit Committee Reappointment - Dunellen Mayor and council reappointed current members of the NJ Transit committee for another term. Discussed need to solicit new members, potentially banks, since we have many banks but no retail representation.

NJ Transit Brochure – Jason to send the current brochure draft. Discussed uses of draft – i.e., solicit new retailers to Dunellen, as well as use for realtors to attract people to Dunellen. Jason will distribute for additional input before final print. Discussed including section to cover redevelopment of Dunellen with focus around the arts.

HarvestFest 2013 – was very successful, chose October 12, 2014 for next HarvestFest. Await final financials from last year. Bill to provide to Adam, Heidi to provide expenses, so we can reconcile and publish.

2014 Calendar – Potential dates follow:

April – annual open house for retailers, hosted by NJ Transit committee, Roxy and Dukes

May – Firemen may host Spring Street Fair – not yet final, but still in planning

May – Skylight Theatre plans plays at the Presbyterian Church May 2, 3, 4

June 8 – Car Show (no direct fundraising, potentially presence only for Committee)

August – Skylight Theatre – plans Plays in the Park – August 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24

September – Street Fair – fundraiser for NJ Transit committee -- last year had guessing jars, toilet toss and pretzel sales. Made \$168 in 2013 as compared to \$328 in 2012 with darts and face painting.

HarvestFest – October 12 – last year was well received, so will plan similar games/activities.

Retailer Open House – tentatively planned for late March, early April – discussed Welcome and thank you for Dunellen retailers, merchandising tips, such as display and storefront decorations, update on the vision and development of the town, update on “one seat” for train, due March 4.

Beautification of Dunellen:

Grant request – to extend the lampposts up Washington Avenue, was declined. A new grant was resubmitted for 2014.

Sign ordinance - revised sign ordinance was passed and should provide more clarity which will result in improved enforcement. Current code enforcement officer cannot expand role to include sign enforcement. Ken knows of a volunteer who will enforce for Dunellen – he will discuss with Mayor/Council.

Lamp post baskets – discussed potentially using funds raised to date for high visibility project, such as lamp post baskets on major intersections in town.

Redevelopment of downtown centers – has been successful in Somerville, Rahway, Collingswood. Potentially learn from their leads and contacts in these areas. Jason has contacts in Rahway and Somerville, Ken has contacts in Collingswood.

Next meeting - Tuesday, February 25, 2014 6:30 at the Annex.