

Germantown Economic Development Advisory Committee
Agenda (DRAFT)
4/25/2022 at 9am ET on Zoom (See Germantownny.org for meeting link)

Committee Member Attendance: Pippa Biddle, Ben Davidson, Tony Albino, Tracy Martin, Amy Davison, Wendy Fieser

Guests:

Review minutes from last meeting (3/28/22)
Approved; Tracy Martin Second; Tony Albino

OLD BUSINESS

- **GEDAC Statement of Purpose**
Reviewing suggestions from working document with goal of proposing a new statement of purpose for GEDAC.
 - Have been working on this for months, but the big question right now is whether it should be super short or longer
 - Tony: Pippa's statement combines people's but is missing some of Tracy's draft. Working on adding a few words in — see in draft.
 - Full committee on call. Discussing and approving.
 - Statement of Purpose approved by the Committee, to be sent to the Town Board: "The Germantown Economic Development Advisory Committee seeks to nurture, retain, and attract local businesses through resources, events, and other opportunities. We take a particular interest in building new connections between community members of all age groups resulting in greater collaboration and collective well-being

- **Yard Sale 2022 – May 21, 2022**
Last meeting: GEDAC to work on food
 - Tracy will be following up with people.
 - Food
 - o Jeanette asking Happy Beans to be down at Palatine Manor
 - o Approval was received to use the parking lot at the funeral home for food/events.
 - o Palatine Manor will have hot dogs, there will be a sub sale (lion's club), and there are a few other options worth exploring to expand the offerings
 - Posters are up
 - Sign-up is up
 - Billy Kimmel emailed out the Instagram square sharing image
 - Wendy: why aren't we lined up with the Garden club sale?
 - o We thought we were...
 - o Tracy/Amy: Need to confirm and figure out because we thought that we were accommodating the garden club
 - o Wendy will find out more details
 - Tables available at Palatine Manor?

- Wendy: We have space for 4 or 5 more, and Wendy is the contact for those tables. Cost per table is \$15 or \$20, but she needs to double check.
- Jeanette: GEDAC table at yard sale?
 - Pippa: Would be great to have one with
 - Jeanette: Can man 2-4pm if we still want to have one
 - Map, Brochure, Potential info about movie nights
 - **NEXT STEPS:** Jeanette email Pippa to schedule Ben and Tony
- **NEXT STEPS:** food, table rentals, table for GEDAC, but more than anything need to figure out the date discrepancy with the garden club (later in meeting garden sale confirmed for May 14th)
- **Writing and Arts Competition 2022**

Recap

 - Raised over \$2000 from local businesses
 - Low number of entries, so that will be a big goal next year
 - Entries are on display in the library
 - Pippa will be managing the distribution of prizes (over \$1900, full amount broken down in Google Drive folders) and reimbursement of Quittner for poster design, as approved by the committee.
 - Wendy: one note on the competition – if we have a theme letting the kids know what it is earlier may be helpful, like before the Christmas vacation. They get a little scattered after January.
 - Tony: For next year, remember to ask students what they are interested in.
 - Tracy: Looking towards connecting to nature and building a connection to what the world means to you.
 - **NEXT:** Table until next October 2022. Start planning so that we can announce before holiday break.
- **Earth Day Events**

Recap

 - Tracy: Overall pretty happy and felt it was pretty successful. Wish there was a slightly higher turnout, but it was also spring break and that felt like that contributed to it.
 - Wendy: Won't always be a problem because break is based on Easter.
 - Tracy: Recycling bins are gorgeous and the compost program for town is really exciting. Solar program minimums have already been met, which is very exciting as well. But the feedback as well was that things were quite spread out so it may be worth centralizing more in the future. Library was very busy for their events
 - Wendy: Sportsman's club sold out
 - Tracy: Next year we could use help with the social media in the lead up and on day of the event.
 - Wendy: Was very excited that while she was handing out the waste guides the most receptive person was an individual who works at the dump, which is great.
 - Tracy: Gaskins funded the waste guide, and the idea is "separate and save" and it's received great feedback.

- **Next Steps:** Table it until planning for 2023

- **Business list update**

Any updates?

- Amy: ZBA had a public meeting the other night and Gather Wild has been before ZBA for a while. It was determined by ZBA that they cannot operate as they have been and they've had to close down while applying for a special-use permit. In their presentation, they used being listed on the town website and being printed on the brochure as evidence towards their argument for a special-use permit.
- Pippa: Interesting question because whose responsibility is it to verify that businesses are allowed to operate?
- Amy: It shouldn't be our responsibility to verify that businesses are legally allowed to be operating, just to recognize businesses that are operating
- Tony: The brochure isn't a legal document
- Tracy: Would be awesome to have someone from the town board at our meetings to field questions like this. Or, at least, have the town board sign off on brochure updates before printing?
- Tony: But they aren't going to take the time to do that (because it's a heavy lift), and this is for one business. So this is an issue that is not our purview.
- Wendy: Has heard that they are going to be moving.
- Pippa: Let's not go too deep into speculation, but to Tony's point it's not evidentiary
- **Next Steps:** Sooner or later we have to have a discussion for when to print. Next meeting try to set a schedule.

- **GEDAC Instagram –**

- a. Takeovers Update — who's next? ([See here for related documents](#))*
- Wendy doing a takeover in May.
- **Next Steps:** Wendy to reach out to Pippa to plan

- **GCS Internship Program**

- a. Updates? ([see intern request form draft](#))*
- Tracy: Only real responses so far have been from people interested in summer internship in the medical field. Any thoughts, Amy?
- Amy: Not associated with a hospital, so not sure what's possible especially with covid. Amy suggestion – if a field they are interested in reach out to a dentist, chiropractor, etc. for shadowing days...
- Tracy: the Vet?
- Pippa: Still under very strict covid protocols
- Tony: Will ask the dutchess county hospital about whether there are any programs. He doesn't think there are, but worth asking.
- **NEXT:** Tony asking

- **9/9G Sign Project**
Pops pitched? Winning words?
 - [Push to next Meeting](#)

- **Apple Fest 2023**
Updates?
 - None. Tracy will get back to following up.

- **Movies Nights 2022**
 - Do we want to do them and, if so, do we want to be at the Pavilion?

 - Committee votes yes and yes. 2-3 movie nights with sponsorship, maybe some volleyball, kayaks, and a movie with popcorn.

 - July, Aug, Sept.

 - Amy: 3rd weekend of the month?

 - Tracy: and Friday nights?

 - Tracy: Also maybe vote on fav 3 from a list of 15 movies to local businesses also asking people to sponsor. Sponsors will be mentioned in social posts and on the screen before the movie.

 - Wendy: chance to have sponsors be involved in the volunteering and set up and attendance as well. Wendy – family centered movies are a better idea?

 - **Next Steps:** Tracy to talk to parks about partnership and dates. Pippa to email Swank and will follow back up with Katrina. Wendy to throw out the idea to Devon about helping us again – and if he has hard no dates that would be great. (top item for May)

NEW BUSINESS

COMMENTS PERIOD/Q&A

MISC./TABLED BUSINESS

- GCS Graduates Messages of Support Programming
- Updates on Tony Albino's jobs program.
- Business Resources Programming: "*Germantown Hires*"x*AroundGermantown.com Initiative*

- Committee Recruitment Initiatives

Next Meeting: **May 23rd, 9am**

Motion to adjourn; Tony Albino Second; Wendy Fieser