

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 21, 2022**

The June regular monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Business Development Partnership (BDP) was held at 8:30 A.M. at the Township Administration Building. A virtual option was available via Microsoft Teams. The members of the BDP in attendance included Lisa Martin (Chair), J.P. Northrop (Vice-Chair), Mary Alfarano, Allan Nappen, Jay Haenn, Ryan Frazier, Jim Brusilovsky, and Jacqui Baxter-Rollins. Also present were Carolyn McCreary, Township Manager, Marianne McConnell, Deputy Planning & Zoning Officer, and Derek Muller, Public Information Coordinator. Troy Tradewell from 5 Points Auto attended as a member of the public. Lucas Oshman (Partnership TMA) attended to present to the BDP.

**Regular Meeting**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

**Minutes:** On a motion by Mr. Haenn and a second by Mr. Nappen, the May 2022 meeting minutes were approved.

**Public Comment**

- There was no public comment.

**New Business**

- **Presentation: Partnership TMA & SEPTA Updates**
  - Jacqui Baxter-Rollins and her colleague, Lucas Oshman, shared initiatives that SEPTA is pursuing to enhance transportation in Montgomery Township. The Partnership TMA works with SEPTA to support these efforts.
    - View the presentation at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGtDXKzu-w>

**Old Business**

- **Review Speakers/Presenters for future months**
  - The following topics were discussed for upcoming presentations:
    - Internet Scams (July 2022)
    - Banking & Fraud (September 2022)
    - Police Department Updates for Businesses (October 2022)
    - Updates on Township Initiatives (November 2022)
- **Business Communication**
  - After making a few revisions, the welcome letter from the BDP was signed by all present members.
- **Business Updates - Members of the BDP went around the table and shared brief updates about their respective businesses and trends they are seeing.**
  - Jay Haenn (Auto Groups, Inc.) – It remains difficult to secure inventory in the automobile industry, including vehicles and parts.
  - Allan Nappen (Nappen & Associates) – Construction costs continue to rise and the supply chain continues to experience issues, making it difficult to complete projects on desired timelines.

- Jim Brusilovsky (Mark's Jewelers) – The business has seen a surge of about 2000 extra clients in the past 18 months. Physical storefront foot traffic continues to be slow. The stock market's status is nerve-wracking, and he is waiting to see what kind of financial "storm" we are heading toward.
- J.P. Northrop (Edward-Jones) – There is a 50/50 chance we are heading into a recession. If we do, it should be relatively minor and quick. To avoid falling into a recession, the average American household has to spend money they have been saving to help the economy. Investors are encouraged to engage in dollar-cost averaging, which is placing money into the market over time, not all at once.
- Lisa Martin (Costco) – Membership continues to ramp up. They still need more employees, and it continues to be difficult to hire new employees who want to work.
- Marianne McConnell (Montgomery Township – Planning & Zoning) – The Planning & Zoning office is issuing about 100 permits per month, mostly for smaller projects. She provided an update on some new businesses entering the Township.
- Jacqui Baxter-Rollins (Partnership TMA of Montgomery County) – The Partnership TMA always welcomes community partners. Contact Jacqui to learn how to be involved.
- Derek Muller (Montgomery Township – Public Information) – Sponsorships are needed for the Township's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Autumn Festival on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the BDP, the meeting adjourned at 9:36am. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 @ 8:30am at the Township Administration Building. This meeting will be held in person with a virtual option available.