

## **Eatontown Economic Development Advisory Committee (E<sup>2</sup>DAC)**

**February 5, 2009**

Meeting called to order at approximately 1 p.m. in the council chamber of Borough Hall.

1. Officers are re-elected: Ron Wollner, president; Anna Mayer, vice president, Bob Stroebel, treasurer, Helen Pike, secretary.
2. The Mayor gave us an update on what businesses are closing or leaving Eatontown; Fortunoff, Circuit City, Borders, Saturn, and the Inspection Center to name a few. The good news is there are two new businesses that have opened Bobby's Burgers and Jared's. Best Buy received the planning board's approval. The other good news is that the Veterans authority is moving into the Mitre building and could create up to 200 new jobs.
3. The Mayor also introduced Django (John) Weigers the new construction and fire Official. I have met him in the past and my impression of him is very favorable. A few of us had to inform him of all the problems we had experienced with his department.
4. We talked about the status of Fort Monmouth for awhile and Jamie suggested that the town not accept the property. Jamie thinks the property will be more of a liability than an asset. I questioned all the empty buildings that would be on the gateway to the new Borough Hall.
5. I presented some of my issues for discussion. I asked the Mayor if someone can compile a list of the top ten reasons businesses need variances in town. This way we can address the problems, and come up with some solutions to correct them. I didn't get an answer on whether this could be done, but I'll stay on it. I also informed the committee about the Grants the State of NJ is offering businesses to create more jobs, let us see how many apply.
6. I also want to correct the traffic problem on Hope road. The Mayor said he could possibly add that to the traffic plan.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Wollner, president