

Eatontown Economic Development Advisory Committee (E²DAC)

March 5, 2009

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

Members present:

Ron Wollner, Anna Mayer, George, Destafney, Helen Pike, Kevin Gonzalez, George Rodriquez, Tom Riccardi, Bob English, George Jackson, borough administrator, Dennis Connelly, Borough Council liaison, and Mayor Gerry Tarantolo, committee advisor.

Guest speaker: Timothy Lizura, senior vice president/ business development,
New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA).

Lizura spoke about the different loan programs available to help businesses, including relocation assistance, employee incentives, site expansion, and brownfields remediation.

The EDA is targeting the following industries it sees as the backbone of the state's new economy: technology/telecommunications, life sciences, finance, and transportation logistics.

In the small-business category, the EDA sees as growth sectors: the service industry, manufacturing, logistics and bio technology.

The EDA's green initiative includes a regional greenhouse-gas reduction plan, a green-collar job plan, and an alternative energy (wind turbines, solar panels and bio diesel) fund for manufacturing and retail outlets.

Lizura also indicated he would be coming on board the new agency expected to emerge in April from the Fort Monmouth Economic Revitalization Planning Authority.

Lizura and E²DAC discussed what might be done to co-sponsor a mentoring workshop for Eatontown business owners in September at the Sheraton.

Separately, the committee discussed the zoning code for signs and special-event permits; the on-going traffic bottleneck on Hope Road between Industrial Way and Route 36, and the status of the partially caved-in Eatontown roller rink (waiting on insurance) on Route 35.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Pike, E²DAC secretary