

**Metuchen Development Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Attendees:** Jack Altman, Kevin Donahue, Audrey Gatling, Gideon Gelber, Laura Griffith, Jon Rabinowitz, JoAnn Sabatino-Falkenstein, Council Liaison Dorothy Rasmussen. **Not in attendance:** Munsamy Govender.

Dan Lebar, the President of the Metuchen Traffic & Transportation Commission, joined our meeting to discuss combined efforts on approaching NJ Transit about renovations of the Metuchen train station. The subject began with the recent painting of the Metuchen train station, and a lively and varied discussion ensued, underlined by the fact that the state of NJ as well as NJ Transit lack funds to support more valuable improvements.

The meeting was officially opened at 9:37pm, when Jack Altman joined to fulfill quorum. August minutes were read and accepted by L. Griffith, seconded by J. Rabinowitz.

The commission received a copy of a letter to Mayor Vahalla, dated October 4<sup>th</sup>, from commissioner Lynn Hendricks-Wong tendering her resignation from the commission.

J. Rabinowitz updated the commission on the brochure, a project he began this year in cooperation with the Zoning Department and has apparently stalled B. Boerth's office.

J. Sabatino-Falkenstein raised the 80's Burchill study from the Bloustein School on development and its burden to town operations. The commission has discussed using the Franklin Square development as a means to discover whether housing adds ratables or is a net burden to services. We estimate 105 units and hope that this study might guide feasibility of future developments. Suggestions are applying for clearance to study this, as well as access to the tax information and school statistics to begin the project.

J. Sabatino-Falkenstein shared **Anchoring Metuchen's Downtown**, which outlines a proposal for a year-round semi-enclosed farmers market, which we believe would be a destination. This idea arose from discussion of a potential anchor for the Pearl Street parking structure development.

J. Sabatino-Falkenstein covered the Metuchen Superintendent Search with an update that the field had been reduced to 3 candidates who were being asked to return for third interviews.

Meeting adjournment at 10:40 pm called by J. Rabinowitz, seconded by G. Gelber.

Respectfully submitted by JoAnn Sabatino-Falkenstein