

Meeting opened at 6:34pm held via zoom

Attendees: Peg, Chris, Derryck, Lauren, Terri, Nicole, Tara

- Hanging Baskets/Planters – Still waiting on approval for the hanging baskets. We need to submit 2 quotes in order to get approval to order the hanging baskets. We are currently looking for a second quote. Peg will reach out to Coppola's on New Durham in South Plainfield and Bartel's in Edison. We wanted to get bubblegum petunias, but they were gone from Biondi's before we could get them. Now looking at special kind of geraniums.

-Spring Into Wellness – All attendees confirmed and we are set with the schedule for the day. We have received inquiries about vendor tables. Link was sent to vendors so they could sign up. We will have the mural boards there and they will be a color by number. Need volunteers there to help run the events of the day.

-Car Show – Thank you to the members that have reached out to local businesses to sponsor trophies. They need 14 days to order the trophies, so we need to get answers from the local businesses by this weekend. Make sure to follow up with the businesses.

-Harvestfest – Website and application are ready for vendors to sign up. No current count on vendors yet, but we will keep everyone posted. Possible Harvestfest Art Contest theme – 250th Birthday of USA

-Unity Day – Scheduled for July 6, 2025. There will be a Fourth of July bicycle decoration parade for kids. We will talk about unity and have fun games for kids. Hoping to have the unity mural brought over so people can take photos in front. DAICC will be doing more flags to put around the park. DDMO can have a table if we have someone to man the table. Think about possible easy ideas for a DDMO table.

-Memorial Day – There will be a town wide parade. Does DDMO want to do anything for the parade?

-Rope Lights – Peg will follow up with Alex when he is back from vacation on DPW taking down the rope lights and savings those in good condition to use again.

-SID - Special Improvement District – Meeting was April 2nd at the Senior Center. Terri and Lauren attended the meeting. Good information was shared by the representatives from other districts that implemented a SID. The representatives shared their experiences with the full process, many of which were involved since inception. This provided really good insight on the entire process, from the opposition and struggles in the beginning to the successes. Metuchen was able to help 60 stores update their store fronts with grants. Highlands had a lot of opposition, so they created a 501c3 so they could apply for grants to get started. One of the biggest issues Dunellen may face is the volunteers needed and getting business owners involved. It is important to decide on how the funds are spent and you need business owners to get involved. You need about 8-10 business owners to manage the board and the funds of the SID. Parking downtown was also raised as a concern.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03pm.