

BOROUGH OF TUCKERTON

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES: Monday – March 4, 2026

Call Meeting to Order – *Chairman Jon Miller*

Flag Salute – *Chairman Jon Miller*

Open Public Meeting Act Statement - *Secretary*

The Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Committee of the Borough of Tuckerton was hereby called to order at 5:38 PM. Notice of this meeting is in accordance with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 (Section 10:4-10). Notice of the meeting was advertised in the Beacon and the Asbury Park Press.

Roll Call:

	Glen Best	Marcella Klein	Ken Laney	Jon Miller	Kim Sakevich	Dave Shaffer	Chuck Watson
Present	X		X	X	X	X	
Absent		X					X

Also, In Attendance:

	Mayor Sue Marshall	Councilman Ron Peterson
Present		X
Absent	X	

Approval of Minutes – February 2, 2026:

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the February 2, 2026 minutes; the motion was second by Ms. Sakevich. Mr. Best abstained from voting.

Open Public Forum:

A motion was made by Mr. Shaffer to open public forum; the motion was second by Ms. Sakevich. All in favor; none opposed.

Old Business:

Chamber of Commerce- The February Tuckerton Chamber of Commerce meeting was held at Cuisine on the Green after being relocated due to a utilities issue at LBI National. The event drew a full house and was described as highly successful, with strong attendance and positive energy throughout the evening. Local performer Chris Guzman provided live musical entertainment, and the meeting was

sponsored by Kari Underwood, who delivered a presentation on spirituality and mental health. Two new members joined the Chamber that night. A representative from the Parkinson's Foundation expressed interest in hiring Chris Guzman to perform at an upcoming fundraiser. The following morning, Jackie from Seacrest called to share very positive feedback about the event and confirmed that Seacrest will be joining the Chamber, with a check forthcoming. Additionally, Mr. Shaffer reported that Dave Neal, owner of an electric boat business, has purchased property next to H.G. Marshall and plans to operate locally. Mr. Neal was originally introduced to the Chamber by Ms. Sakevich, attended several meetings.

New Jersey Film Festival- Mr. Shaffer is monitoring the New Jersey Film Festival website for conference registration to open and has set up an automated alert. He will notify the group as soon as registration becomes available so that interested members can sign up. Ms. Sakevich added she attended an Monmouth Ocean Development Committee-MODC meeting and is following up with a contact there, as Netflix is a member of MODC. She is working to build relationships between the Tuckerton Chamber and broader regional organizations. Ocean County Tourism and Monmouth County Tourism were both represented at the meeting, along with businesses from both counties.

Restaurant Week- Restaurant Week was confirmed for April 25 through May 2. Mr. Miller will contact the Sandpaper regarding advertising and coverage. Mr. Shaffer noted that a Tuckerton Chamber flyer designed by Monique is ready to be printed and distributed.

Porch Fest- Ms. Sakevich described Porch Fest as a one-day community event held along Route 9, with musicians performing at various business and residential porches from 10 AM to 4 PM, accompanied by vendors at each stop. Last year's event included performances by local school choirs, scout troops, and spoken word artists and was well-attended throughout the day. The committee expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming event and hopes for similarly good weather this year.

New Business:

The Chamber announced it's first-ever Ice Cream Festival, to be held at Tip Seaman Park on Saturday, August 15th, from 11 AM to 5 PM. The event will feature ice cream vendors, a general vendor fair with 10×10 booths, food trucks, bounce houses, and entertainment. Chillin Out ice cream is confirmed as a participating vendor and has offered to assist with planning. Outreach to additional vendors is ongoing, including contact with the Little Egg vendor list.

For the entertainment stage, the committee's first choice is to secure the county stage. The county is expected to acquire a third stage, which would ease scheduling; alternatively, the borough's ball field trailer stages. Mr. Miller proposed adding a car show to the event, to be held in the back parking lot off Lakeside Drive. A potential entry fee of \$15–\$20 per car was discussed, with trophy or plaque awards to be announced from the stage. The committee also discussed inviting local groups such as karate schools, Spotlight Dance Academy, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Sea Scouts to perform demonstrations or presentations.

The question of including alcohol was raised and discussed at length. Without alcohol, event insurance is estimated at \$400–\$600; adding alcohol would increase that cost by approximately \$1,000–\$1,500. Given the added expense, permitting complexity, and the goal of keeping the inaugural event straightforward, the committee agreed that alcohol will not be included in the first year but will be revisited for future events.

Mr. Peterson suggested that the event be marketed as both an ice cream festival and a vendor fair in order to broaden its appeal, and the committee agreed this should be reflected in promotional materials.

Regarding next steps, Mr. Miller will follow up with county contact Mary Ellen on logistics and confirm use of the county stage. Mr. Miller will also contact Ice Cream Emergency (Manahawkin) about participating. Mr. Shaffer will reach out to karate and Spotlight as well as Sea Scout leader Pat. Mr. Laney will contact Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

Members Forum: None.

Close Public Forum:

A motion was made by Mr. Laney to close public forum; the motion was second by Mr. Shaffer. All in favor; none opposed.

Approval of Secretary Services:

Roll Call:

MOTION	SECOND	NAME	YEAS	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
	X	Glen Best	X			
		Marcella Klein				X
		Ken Laney	X			
		Jon Miller	X			
		Kim Sakevich	X			
X		Dave Shaffer	X			
		Chuck Watson				X

Adjournment – 6:00 PM

Motion by Mr. Laney, second by Mr. Shaffer; all in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted:

Savannah Beaulieu, EDC Secretary