

Delaware CEDS

*a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
for the State of Delaware*



Delaware CEDS – a program of the Delaware Economic Development Office

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SUSSEX REGION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

January 11, 2006

4:00–6:00 p.m.

Lewes Public Library, Lewes

Committee Members Present: Jeffery Fried (co-chair), Jerry Esposito (co-chair), Carol Everhart, Sam Cooper, Stephen Masten, Anne DeINegro, Judi Sciple (representing Ileana Smith), John Culp, Robert Stickles

CEDS Support Staff: Bernie Dworsky, Bill McGowan (facilitator), Lisa McIlvaine, Erik Hopkins

DEDO Staff Present: Joy Oliver

Number of Public Participants Present: 6

Bernie Dworsky, the University of Delaware Institute for Public Administration's CEDS State Committee coordinator, recapped previous work completed by committee members and public attendees. Following introductions, the meeting began shortly after 4:00 p.m.

Fulfilling co-chairman Jeff Fried's request for statistics supporting committee goals and objectives, IPA's Erik Hopkins provided a short presentation summarizing Sussex County's situation with affordable housing, infrastructure, historical/wildlife preservation, and education. After the presentation, committee members and public attendees discussed how to tackle complex issues such as affordable housing and higher-sustainable-wage jobs.

Meeting facilitator Bill McGowan from the University of Delaware's Cooperative Extension directed the committee and public attendees to review the CEDS Goals & Objectives chart, focusing on "Strategies/Recommendations." Several aspects of the chart were altered, and logistics were discussed concerning certain objectives. Bill McGowan asked committee members to contemplate three high-priority issues and prepare to evaluate municipal project proposals during the next meeting.

Following extensive deliberation over the CEDS Goals & Objectives chart, committee members and public attendees discussed how Sussex County differs from the rest of the nation. Everyone affirmed their affinity for Sussex County but was finding it difficult to describe in words. At the close of the meeting, the "need" to market Sussex County was clear, but the question still remained, "how?"