

Carbon County Partners for Progress

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Meeting Notes of February 19, 2010

Present: Wayne Nothstein, George Ashman, Peter Kern, Bernetta Frantz, Joe Guardiani, Stephen Kew-Goodale, Judy Hoppes, Cyndi Zimmerman, Susan Tyler, Debra Youngfelt, Pat Sasserath, Gary Wentz, Ron Blisard, Barbara Franzosa

In the President's absence, Vice President Peter Kern welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:30AM.

Treasurer's Report: The report on the 3 accounts to Feb 18, 2010 were reviewed and approved: Motion: Ron Blisard Second: Bernetta Frantz Joe Guardiani reported that the documents for the 2009 tax return have been turned into the auditor; we are required to do a 990 Short.

Acceptance of Minutes: The minutes of 11/20/09 were accepted on a motion by Bernetta Frantz 2nd: by Cyndi Zimmerman; motion passed: with the correction that Judy Hoppes, not Bernetta Frantz attended the meeting with the Blue Mountain Wellness Group.

Correspondence: none

Business/Education: Cyndi Zimmerman reported that the Business Ed Partnership is focusing on fundraising and low-cost and no-cost marketing. They are working with all the school districts on teaching students how to present themselves for an interview and how to create a resume. They are going to put out a call to business people to volunteer to come in and meet with students on these topics. They are also going to work on tying the career-building software from elementary through high school.

Steven Kew-Goodale reported that the annual Weatherly Institute Robotics Contest will be held on Saturday March 6th from 10AM thru the day til a winner is chosen at the end of the day. All are invited to attend and enjoy the engineering process of the projects of mostly high school students with a number of junior high students as well. There are approximately 24 teams with 500 students participating from many states. These students are eligible for 12 million dollars in college scholarships. The contest will be held at the Weatherly Middle School Complex. WIRE will also hold Husband & Wife Alternative Energy Retreats this summer to give families hands on experience with the benefits of wind and solar power

Family Collaborative: Wayne Nothstein reported that Marissa Kimmel of Family Promise has 7 churches involved in the homeless shelter program. The Inter-agency Council is planning to

hold a Legislative Breakfast in mid-late April inviting Keith McCall and all candidates. It was suggested that we work together with the Council to host this event.

Economic & Heritage Development & Community Foundation: Stephen Kew-Goodale reported that Weatherly Trainworks is receiving a federal grant of \$198,000 to purchase the mortgage on the property. The Rotary and the Library have been paying on the mortgage. A foundation has been established and is coordinated by the Library, the Rotary, and the Boro. The main building will eventually house the Library, a Cultural Museum, and space for 12 High-tech incubator start up businesses. They had a university do a visioning study to determine their needs.

Ron Blisard reported that the Solar Farm is expanding from 130 acres to 260 acres. It will provide energy for 3000 homes. It was suggested we get John Curtis to come and be a speaker for one of our meetings.

Wayne Nothsein reported that the trail from Glen Onoko Falls to Jim Thorpe will be completed as soon as the weather breaks.

Joe Guardiani and Barbara Franzosa reported that there will be a meeting to start creating the mission statement and other documents necessary for a **Community Foundation** on Wed. Feb 24th at MCT. Cindy Ray attended the first meeting and has offered her legal services and Lee Zink, from the financial division of MCT will also be involved; both have worked on creating foundations before. Lee Bond sent an email endorsing and encouraging the Partners involvement in this project, and will have Thrivent forward a check for \$400 around April 1st. With Pat Reilly's commitment for MCT to manage the foundation during it's planning and growing years, it removes the financial burden of a start up foundation so that all of our energy can go into the work of creating the foundation, building the funds and a board of directors.

Leadership Carbon: Cyndi Zimmerman reported that the class is planning to hold a Youth Leadership Camp, modeled similar to LC, for 1 full week when the school term ends in June. It will be for students going into their Junior Year; 2 students from each high school and including Marion and cyber schools; Superintendents will be asked to pick students to attend.

Health & Human Services: Dr Kunkle has not had a meeting since last month regarding the Blue Mountain Wellness Initiative. Debra Youngfelt reported that there will be a meeting in March to discuss expanding the dental van to accommodate adults. There is a need for more financial support for the dental van and there is a community need for adult dental care.

Community Brochure: Peter Kern asked everyone to please get their facts, figures, and photos to him by email or hard copy by the next meeting.

Increasing our attendance: Peter Kern asked for ideas on how to get more people involved in Partners. Approach former LC graduates to attend; Barbara Franzosa will get the lists of former and current graduates and add them to our email list. Suggestion to invite a reporter from the Times-News to attend each of our meetings so that we get regular publicity. Get more educators, business people, manufacturing...what is our mission, and we have spun off some great programs that people in those fields are now maintaining, so they have a new set of meetings they are attending.

Next Meeting-March 19th at LCCC Nesquehoning Campus at 8:30AM

Meeting adjourned at 9:30AM on a motion by Gary Wentz; 2nd Bernetta Franz