

# Carbon County Partners for Progress

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Meeting Notes of January 22, 2010

**Present:** Elissa Thorne, Wayne Nothstein, George Ashman, Peter Kern, Jeanne Miller , Bernetta Franz, Adrienne Vasiliou, Judy Hoppes, Cyndi Zimmerman, Susan Tyler, Caylan Chanwik, Debra Youngfelt, Jamie Drake, Pat Sasserath, Gary Wentz, Dawn Ferrante, Barbara Franzosa

President Elissa Thorne welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:30AM.

**Treasurer's Report:** The report on the 3 accounts to 12/31/09 were reviewed and approved:  
Motion: Bernetta Franz Second: Wayne Nothstein

**Acceptance of Minutes:** The minutes of 11/20/09 were accepted on a motion by George Ashman 2<sup>nd</sup>: by Peter Kern; motion passed.

**Correspondence:** Received commitment letter from Francis Mullane, CPA.

**Education and Workforce:** Cyndi Zimmerman reported that fundraising is the focus for the Carbon County Business/Education Partnership right now. The Wall Street West grant that provided seed money for start up needed to be spent by December 31<sup>st</sup>. A majority of the funds were used for marketing materials and to submit the paperwork for incorporation and to become a 501c3. The CCB/EP is offering charter memberships to businesses for a limited time. Dawn Ferrante is acting as the Interim Chairperson, but the group is actively searching for a business representative to hold the office. The Pocono WIB Regional Career Education Partnership for Youth Grant (RCEP) in the amount of \$25,000 has been received. The RCEP grant covers the 4 counties of: Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Wayne.

**Family Collaborative:** Jeanne Miller reported that Right from the Start(birth to 5 yr home visits) received a \$10,000 grant through First Federal; writing a grant due Feb 8<sup>th</sup> for \$1.75 million thru LCCC which would pay out over 40 months; Jeanne Miller was asked to serve on the National Right from the Start Committee. Jeanne reported that Evelyn Keener will work with the Community Engagement Group. Carbon County Action and Lehigh Careers on the Move will host a mid-school career camp on Monday at LB Morris. Districts involved are Lehigh, Panther Valley, and Jim Thorpe. They are hoping to add Palmerton and Weatherly as grants become available.

**Economic & Heritage Development & Community Foundation:** Peter Kern reported that the room tax committee grants are due 4/1/10. The grants are for non-profits and are focused towards tourism and are run by the Chamber. Have Corp be sponsor for for-profit applicants.

Dawn Ferrante reported that EDC will be hosting an Entrepreneurship Forum with Tom Lyons as the guest speaker on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 4PM at a location to be announced.

Community Foundation- Lee Zink, of MCT arranged a meeting with Attorney Cindy Ray, who has offered her legal services gratis, at MCT on Jan 28<sup>th</sup> at 2PM.

**Leadership Carbon:** January meeting cancelled; Class project is a youth leadership program

**Health & Human Services:** Bernetta Franz and Susan Tyler attended a meeting with the Blue Mountain Wellness Initiative; Dr Kunkle seeing many knee problems with overweight patients; working with PTs, Drs, weight loss groups, many do a 501(c)3 and get a space in Palmerton. They want to do it on their own; have a concept but no plan or budget as yet.

**Community Brochure:** Elissa Thorne laid out a plan for a 4 page/4 color summary of achievements to be published before September 2010; included as an insert in the Times-News, regional business journals, with ability to convert for online distribution. Elissa led a brainstorming session with the full group to gather our achievements for the brochure.

**Next Meeting-**February 19<sup>th</sup> at LCCC Nesquehoning Campus at 8:30AM

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