

Carbon County Partners for Progress

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Meeting Notes of November 20, 2009

Present: Elissa Thorne, Wayne Nothstein, George Ashman, Ron Blisard, Peter Kern, Jeanne Miller, Joe Tomaselli, Bernetta Franz, Doug Makofka, Joe Tomaselli, Adrienne Vasilieu, Judy Hoppes, Cyndi Zimmerman, Susan Tyler, Joe Guardiani, Caylan Chanwik, Wendy Roth, Debra Youngfelt, Jamie Drake, Barbara Conway, Barbara Franzosa

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

Treasurer's Report: Joe Guardiani provided a cash flow statement to Nov 18, and apologized for a form he did not sign at the time of filing. This occurred during the time of his surgery and post-op and resulted in a small fine to PFP. Motion by P Kern to forgive him and accept treasurer's report; 2nd by RBlisard; motion passed.

Acceptance of Minutes: The minutes of 10/16/09 were accepted on a motion by J Guardiani; 2nd: by R Blisard; motion passed.

Correspondence: Elissa reported that we received our Certificate of Registration from the Dept of State Bureau of Charitable Organizations. We also received information from Keith McCall on a work force grant from Dept of Labor & Industry.

Elissa sent out two letters this month, a meeting request to Dave Althouse, CCCC, regarding Leadership Carbon, and a letter of thanks and life time membership for service to Larry Evans. Elissa noted that our own George Ashman received a standing ovation when he received the volunteer of the year award at the D & L Partner Recognition Dinner.

Barbara Franzosa thanked everyone for their quick responses to the email call for help regarding the broken stoker in Lansford. George noted that this is another needs issue that could be handled by having a 311 number.

Education and Workforce: No report; Cyndi Zimmerman spoke later.

Family Collaborative: Wayne Nothstein mentioned that a program is in the works for a homeless shelter by Family Promise. Marissa Kimmel, director, is working with a lot of the local churches, it is a 5 county regional effort. Request by Jeanne Miller that we be the pass thru organization for a grant application for SHINE in the amount of \$10,000 from Wachovia/Wells Fargo Foundation. A motion was made by Joe Guardiani to do this thru our existing account; 2nd Peter Kern-motion passed.

Leadership Carbon: Ron Blisard offered to get reinvolved.

Economic & Heritage Development & Community Foundation: Constellation is providing energy quotes to businesses & municipalities through the Chamber.

Health & Human Services: Peter Kern and others attended several meetings with Blue Mt Wellness, an initiative started by several doctors strategizing to address chronic healthcare issues in the county.

Next Meeting-December 18th-8:30 AM Dutch Treat Breakfast at the Albright Mansion

Speaker: Cyndi Zimmerman on the Wall Street West: Business/Ed Partnership

Joe Sebelin worked with Cyndi in setting up the BEP. Currently, the board of directors has been selected, including all school districts, all higher ed facilities in county and PSU & ESU. More businesses are needed to sit on board and be involved. Dawn Ferrante is interim Chairperson and Jim Kraky is vice-chair.

Cyndi provided handouts listing the mission statement and short and long term goals of the BEP. She pointed out the logo which represents “bridge to the future.” **Please visit our website under current events to see the great logo and mission statement/goals.**

Sustainability is also an issue, as their seed money ends 12/31/09. Please let Cyndi know if you have leads on grants she can pursue for BEP. They are collaborating with 4 other counties(Luzerne, Wayne, Bucks, Lehigh Valley) to leverage their resources and to tie into other initiatives.

Discussion included time availability in classroom; career exposure-occurs in grades 3,5,8, & 11; could non-profit offer an internship/job-shadowing?-Yes; the 7 & 8th grade Learning for Life Explorer Post health careers job shadowing; video streaming in local businesses-students do the production; Cyndi would like to develop an on-line bank of employers; career cruising software-local business people can get interactive with students on a blog; businesses can provide awards for students(eg: free pizza for attendance award); businesses should contact Cyndi on job shadowing; visit the BEP at www.ccbep.org and contact Cyndi at info@ccbep.org

Don't miss the BEP Kick-off Breakfast-a free event on Thursday, 12/17 from 8-9:30 AM at Blue Ridge Country Club to learn more about this wonderful new initiative in Carbon County.

Reserve a seat at their web site or call Cyndi at 570-325-4140x213

Meeting adjourned at 9:30AM

