

Carbon County Partners for Progress

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Meeting Notes of November 19, 2010

Present: Elissa Thorne, George Ashman, Pat Sasserath, Peter Kern, Cyndi Zimmerman, Joe Guardiani, Melanie Zeigler, Dawn Ferrante, Doug Makofka, Ron Blisard, Senator Dave Argall, Jeanne Miller, Barbara Franzosa

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

Treasurer's Report: Approved on a motion by R Blisard; 2nd by C Zimmerman

Acceptance of Minutes: Accepted on motion by Joe Guardiani and 2nd: by C Zimmerman

Correspondence: none

Community Foundation: Elissa, Doug, and Barbara have been meeting to research more info since the mission and vision statements were created in February. Doug reviewed the work-to-date on a power point presentation he created to use as a tool for promoting the proposed foundation. Discussion followed. The following comments were made relative to improving the presentation:

- We need extra slides on how, why and where the idea started.
- We should identify wealth – i.e. Center for Rural PA study on wealth transfer in each county.
- Do we already have an existing foundation that could transition to include our mission?
- A quick review of the CCEDC Foundation mission/bylaws and the recommendation that we contact them to discuss.

Barbara explained the low-overhead Bucks County Foundation, where currently one home-based employee using Quick Books software provides the staff to do necessary tax reporting, fundraising/marketing efforts, and coordination of twice yearly grant applications. Created in 1979 by a group of bankers and lawyers, the foundation monies are trusts that reside in respective banks throughout the county. A large unrestricted donation was received in 2003 at which time the group hired their first and only employee. She holds meetings as needed in the banks' conference rooms around the county. They are currently at 11 million in assets.

Advancing the PFP Mission: Elissa led the group discussion on our achievements& concerns:

-catalyst for change, filling in the gaps, filling needs, the Collaborative in HHS visioning group

- visioning and brings all of the smaller groups together
- a central clearinghouse for all-services and businesses included
- a mechanism to fill in the gaps
- can do so much more working together
- diversity brings business and social services together
- a convener, bringing people together

Our Successes include Dental Van, County Chamber, SHINE, Leadership Carbon, getting better workers from LCCC & CTI, the early childhood programs

Our Concerns: 250 at first meeting-went from lots of business people and social services to now mostly social services; biggest problem is parochialism; must keep working together for jobs and education; need to get the best and the brightest to stay in Carbon County -we have lost connection to the movers and shakers in business & banking community; get business people involved- invite them- bring a business person with you; Do we know the challenges of businesses?

Suggestions: Do a survey just focused on business. Demonstrate how getting involved with PFP is going to help business. Develop a program, maybe 2 hour breakfast meeting in March asking what the community wants. Ask for their ideas/ concern since it's too hard to get them out for a meeting. The County needs a transportation initiative to get people to their workplaces

Action items:

- Bring a potential new member or an inactive member them to the Christmas breakfast.
- Elissa asked Cyndi, Ron, Dawn, and Peter to work on a survey and setting up the March meeting.

Nominating Committee: Elissa asked Joe Guardiani to get volunteers for a nominating committee

Next Meeting-December 17th Christmas Breakfast at the Albright Mansion 8:30AM-RSVP to Barbara and bring a business person, potential new member, or an old member.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30AM

Respectfully Submitted by,

Barbara Franzosa