

Carbon County Partners for Progress

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Meeting Notes of October 16, 2009

Present: Elissa Thorne, Wayne Nothstein, George Ashman, Ron Blisard, Peter Kern, Jeanne Miller, Joe Tomaselli, Bernetta Franz, Doug Makofka, Judy Hoppes, Cyndi Zimmerman, Susan Tyler, Dawn Ferrante, Barbara Franzosa

President Elissa Thorne welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:30AM. We had a brief discussion on the state budget crisis, and the importance of having a Plan B. Don't have "all the eggs in one basket," make use of state and federal programs. Leveraging our talents is more important than ever.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Guardiani forwarded his report as he could not be here. Motion by Peter Kern to accept the treasurer's report, second by Bernetta Frantz. Motion Carried.

Acceptance of Minutes: The minutes of 9/18/09 were accepted on a motion by Ron Blisard; 2nd: by Wayne Nothstein

Correspondence: Received a thank you note from Elissa Thorne. The state requested a signature from Joe Guardiani on the 990. Elissa will get that form to Joe.

Leadership Carbon: Elissa Thorne reported that she led the Class this month- Parks, Environment, and Recreation program. Michael Heery led the group discussion at day's end. Elissa noted that there are 4 municipal government people in the class of 9. She also mentioned that we did not have a Memo of Understanding when we turned the LC program over to the Chamber of Commerce. Motion by Ron Blisard to have Executive Committees of PFP and CCCC meet, once CCCC has those positions filled, to create a Memo of Understanding on the LC program; second by Bernetta Frantz; motion passed.

Upcoming events; *SHINE premiere*-PVS,5PM on Oct 22- all invited to this free event
Chamber Awards Dinner- All invited; at Penn's Peak on Oct 26; cost \$40 call Cameo 379-5000
Quarterly MFG forum-Wed, Oct 28, 3-5PM at Platz Restaurant.Topic: Rate Cap ending and effects; w/ Keith McCall, PPL, Mike Heery
D&L Awards Dinner:Nov 5,2009 at 6PM at the America on Wheels Museum; our George Ashman is the volunteer of the year award winner.

Education and Workforce: Cyndi Zimmerman reported that they are looking for a chair for the new business-ed task force. Kick off in Dec. with funding from Wall Street West on implementing workforce needs in education. We will send out an email blast on it. Cyndi will

get Elissa more information. Dept of L&I is providing some stimulus money to refund a grant that ended. Cyndi will apply for it. It is a regional grant shared among Pike, Monroe, & Wayne Counties. Educator in the workplace is the most successful program.

Family Collaborative: Wayne Nothstein reported that Jim Tsach, Bo Tsach's father, spoke in the area recently on his foundation for awareness of depression and ADD; takes care of people who do not have insurance.

Marketing and PR: Elissa reported on a workshop on Pocono Forest and Waters Land Initiative w/ Luzerne, Lackawanna, Pike, Wayne, and Carbon Counties. D&L partnered with Lehigh Valley Land Use Planning on trails

Entrepreneurship Program: Dawn Ferrante reported that the plan will be put on hold until all of the local economic development councils become regionalized. The work study costs \$60,000. When all are together, they will all feel ownership of such a program. Everybody kicks in money, a private non-profit foundation is formed to take the politics out of it.

Lifetime Membership Honor: Ron Blisard reported that Larry Evans is failing and that we should give him a letter of service for his lifetime of work; Motion to make him a lifetime member of PFP by Wayne Nothstein, second by Peter Kern.

TASK FORCE REPORTS:

Education & Workforce: Business-Ed wants to work with PFP; Cyndi Zimmerman will be our speaker next month on Business-Education Partnership.

Marketing & PR: Peter Kern suggest we publish our accomplishments beyond Carbon County as community success story. Build on the needs assessment survey; have a broad-based public meeting(like in 1998); invite the public; detail the planned family center.

Economic Development:follow-up on entrepreneurship program; try to bring the 5 EDCs under 1 roof; will hire a consultant to decide how to combine the EDCs-then do Entrepreneurship.

Health & Human Services: Bernetta Frantz reported about the community engagement grantee; Jeanne Miller reported that we will pursue a meeting with the local chiropractor who is concerned about unhealthy lifestyles and obesity; get fresh foods in food bank; use hospitals to help; focus on healthy lifestyles; have a wellness initiative; contact Luzerne Co Wellness Council; grants are available.

New Business:none

Next Meeting is Friday November 20 at 8:30 AM at LCCC Nesquehoning Campus

Meeting adjourned at 9:30Am Minutes respectfully submitted by Barbara Franzosa