



Carbon County Partners for Progress Meeting Notes

**LCCC – Carbon Site
November 18, 2011**

Present: George Ashman, Ron Blisard, Elissa Garofalo, Peter Kern, Jeanne Miller, Wayne Nothstein, Pat Sasserath, Debra Youngfelt, Melanie Ziegler, Cyndi Zimmerman

Welcome

President, Elissa Garofalo called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer, Elissa Garofalo noted there were no changes to the account balances. Sandra Duda will manage the Leadership Carbon checkbook. She will determine who are the current signatories and the necessary changes will be made. Elissa noted that some funds for scholarships were owed to Leadership Carbon from the PFP general account.

Acceptance of October Minutes:

Due to the resignation of Barbara Franzosa, Cyndi Zimmerman has volunteered to take minutes for the remainder of the year. The October Minutes will be prepared and distributed with the minutes of the November meeting.

Leadership Carbon:

The 2011-12 Leadership Carbon program is progressing well. The Kick-off event was held at The Resort at Split Rock. The October session featured discussions on the environment and recreation and the November Session covered business. It was noted that the group will be hosting a fund raising event in the spring. Elissa Garofalo distributed comments from the October and November sessions for the group to review. The feedback to date has been very positive.

Dental Van:

Deb Youngfelt reported the committee is working on some public relations pieces for the dental van. A big ad blitz will be promoted in February in conjunction with Dental Health Month.

General Discussions:

Elissa Garofalo reported the Economic Development Department is in the process of conducting interviews for consultants to conduct a business survey in Carbon County. The cost of the survey will be approximately \$15,000. Both mail and on-line versions will be available to the businesses. Various community groups

are contributing to the cost of the survey. Elissa recommended that PFP contribute \$2,000 to the survey. The anticipated timeline is to distribute the survey in the first half of 2012 with a completion date in June. Discussion followed.

Motion:

A motion to contribute \$2,000 towards the cost of the county-wide business survey was made by Ron Blisard, seconded by Jeanne Miller and carried.

Redistricting:

Conversation developed on the re-districting of the State and the possibility of Summit Hill moving to the 124th District. Peter Kern questioned if PFP should send a letter to anyone regarding the move. Discussion was held.

Motion:

A motion was made by Wayne Nothstein to send a letter of support for Summit Hill to remain in the 122nd District, seconded by Peter Kern and carried. Peter offered to draft a letter on behalf of PFP.

PFP Course for the Future:

Discussion was held on the future of PFP. Elissa Garofalo recommended the meeting schedule be reduced to a quarterly basis. Discussion was held regarding advertising, developing speakers and various methods of attracting more participation and membership.

Motion:

A motion was made by Peter Kern to change the meeting schedule to quarterly with meetings being held in March, June, September and December, seconded by Ron Blisard and carried.

Further discussion was held regarding both the risk of having fewer meetings and having valuable topics create more interest. The motion stands to change the meeting schedule to quarterly meetings.

Discussion was held on recruiting speakers for 2012. The group decided on four topics to cover: education, business, smart growth and local municipalities. Wayne Nothstein noted that the Interagency Council is again planning for a Legislative Brunch. The event will be held on April 27th.

A tentative schedule of speakers will be:

March: Business Survey (Speakers: TBA)

June: Developing Workforce Skills for Youth through STEM (Speakers: Jeanne Miller/Barbara Conway)

September: Quality of Life – Health & Wellness – Preventative Measures (Speakers: TBA)

December: Transportation – PENNDot Grant (Speakers: TBA)

Nominating Committee:

Discussion was held on the slate of officers for 2012. Elissa Garofalo will be assuming a new position at the D&L, but she is still interested in being involved with PFP. Peter Kern, Joe Guardiani and Cyndi Zimmerman have agreed to play a role if needed.

Holiday Meeting:

Discussion was held on various options for the December meeting. Cyndi Zimmerman will check availability of a few locations and schedule the date.

Elissa Garofalo reported she will send out an e-mail to the members regarding the plans for 2012.

Adjournment:

Motion:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Blisard, seconded by Pat Sasserath and carried.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cyndi Zimmerman

The next meeting will be a Dutch treat breakfast held on
December 16th at 8:30 a.m.
at BEAR APPETIT, 29 Broadway, Jim Thorpe.
Please RSVP to Cyndi Zimmerman by December 9th.
Thank you.