

CARBON COUNTY PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS

Executive Board Minutes—July 18, 2008



Those in attendance: Pat Reilly, Bernetta Frantz, Bill Allison, Judy Berger, Kristin Simmons, Wayne Nothstein, Peter Kern, Larry Evans, Elissa Thorne, Jonathan Johnson, Susan Tyler, Ralph Richards, and Michael Heery.

Pat Reilly welcomed all members and called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Treasurer's Report:

MOTION: A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Bernetta Frantz and seconded by Susan Tyler. Motion carried.

Acceptance of Minutes: The minutes for May 16, 2008 were tabled.

2008 Carbon County Needs Assessment Survey:

Preliminary Results were given by Jonathan Johnson, the Center for Rural PA. He gave a PowerPoint presentation. A public presentation will be given in September. The survey response rate is as follows:

- 23,805 households in Carbon County
- 2,000 surveys were mailed on May 12, 2008
- 8.4% of Carbon County household
- 517 completed surveys returned
- 25.8% response rate
- 244 written comments

Task Forces

Education: Bill Allison is conducting a Focus Group of 20 people for the Education Task Force on August 2, 2008. The purpose of the group will be where they go from here, help to identify other issues, and discover new objectives. The group will be composed of parents, a school district representative, school boards, superintendents, teachers, politicians, and business leaders. Bill will present a report at the next full membership meeting.

Economic Development & Heritage: Michael Heery reported that the Carbon County Chamber of Commerce's Cultural/Heritage & Tourism committee will be assembling the "Things to See and Do in Carbon County" binder. It will be organized by categories. It will be distributed to parks, attractions, and lodgings in Carbon County. It will promote Carbon County. A "Packaging Workshop" will be held on November 19th to promote more cross promotions within Carbon County. A "Blood Drive" will be held on July 29th. The chamber is sponsoring a trip to the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs game on August 4th. A pig roast will be held on August 13th at Mauch Chunk Lake. A major fundraiser for the chamber will be a golf outing and it will be held on August 21st at the Resort at Split Rock. Judy reported that the county's comprehensive plan is being revised & updated. Regarding the Packerton Yards, a law firm is submitting an application to gain access to the property.

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Health & Human Services: The PA Dept. of Health was so impressed with the *Healthy Smiles, Happy Kids* program that they presented a \$5,000 award to honor the program. The Blue Ribbon Foundation gave an additional \$15,000 towards the dental van. The dental van is doing great during the school year. However, during the summer it's been difficult getting parents to send their children to a designated van location in their area. Press releases may be helpful. A year-end report will be presented in the near future.

Leadership Carbon: The program is transitioning to the Carbon County Chamber of Commerce after graduation. The current steering committee will continue to serve for another year. There are 12 applications for the Class of 2009. Clarification is needed about the current funds. The question is will they remain in the CCPFP/Leadership Carbon checking account or if all funds will follow the program and be transferred to CCCC. A tentative meeting between the two executive boards for CCPFP & CCCC and Representative McCall has been scheduled for August 6th. It will need to be determined where did the initial funds come from. A full accounting is made to Joe Guardiani. He receives all bank statements. Regarding recruitment, it has been difficult to have municipalities participate in the program because of lack of participation.

Family Collaborative: Their next meeting will be held in August. They are looking for more funding.

Carbon County Partners for Progress will not meet during August. **Carbon County Partners for Progress will meet on Friday, September 19th at 8:30 a.m.** A public presentation by Jonathan Johnston will be given about the Carbon County Needs Assessment Survey results. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: *Kristin Simmons*