

New Britain Borough Community & Business Committee Minutes May 10, 2012

Present: R Belchic, D Byrne, M E Coia, J D'Agostino, D Fermier, C Forlano, J Gilmore, D Holewinski, L Moxey, D von Lipsey

Excused: D Joss Guest: Tom Yatsky, New Britain Borough Zoning Officer

Marie called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Minutes from the April 12, 2012 meeting were read and accepted.

Minutes: (include on borough web site?) It was agreed, at this time, minutes to meetings will not be posted on the

Borough web site. Communication regarding the committee's activities will be via a report to Council.

Tom Yatsky: Tom provided information about various large industrial/commercial properties in the Borough (Cayuga

Pipe, Delaware Valley Concrete, Del-Val Truck Equipment) and asked us to re-imagine these sites if the businesses

decide to close. He challenged us to think about what Main Street New Britain Borough might look like in twenty years.

What is our vision for the future? Tom closed his presentation/discussion by asking each member to prioritize a list of

community attributes and return to him.

Property Maintenance Ordinance: We do not currently have an ordinance. Should we? An ordinance can enable the

Zoning Officer to site property owners who do not cut their grass or other external maintenance issues that present a

hazard to the community. Robert Belchic requested Tom Yatsky follow up with Borough Solicitor, M Goodwin.

Bitzer's – BC Redevelopment Authority: Council has formed a blight committee which will identify blighted properties

and work with the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority to rectify the properties.

DVRPC TCDI Grant: The cycle is every two years. The next cycle is 2013

Newsletter: The Borough newsletter expansion has been well received by business members.

One business featured in

the newsletter, Circle of Life Veterinary, received a call from a resident the next business day after receiving the

newsletter.

Business Surveys: The committee members reviewed surveys from other boroughs and created a survey for NBB.

Marie will type a survey using the questions the committee decided to include.

Event at the Town Center: Tabled for now, so that we take a thoughtful approach. Chris shared Dublin Borough's

mailer for their 100 anniversary events. Some ideas for an event include: 5K run, band(s), health & safety fair

(Foundations), Harvest Time - benefit food larder.

Old Business: Additional unique businesses in NBB include, Ambrose Randa, Peace Valley Tile and Bucks County Folk

Music Shop.

New Business:

Project Design Grants: Jeff informed us that engineering firms can apply for grant money to be used for project design,

if the community agrees to hire them for the project. Bouche & James, Carroll Engineering and Gilmore and Assoc all do this work. Jeff will research and report back to the committee.

Speed Limit on Butler: A suggestion was made to petition PennDot to reduce the speed on Butler to 35mph to be consistent with the stretch of 202 through Chalfont and into Dolyestown Borough. Marie will contact Borough Engineer, M Hintenlang, for guidance on behalf of the committee with copies to Robert & David.

Action items: All: prioritize items on the list from T Yatsky; Jeff: research project design grants; Marie: contact M Hintenlang and type a draft of the business survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM. The next meeting will be held June 14, 2012 at 7:30 PM.