

New Britain Borough Community & Business Committee Meeting Minutes March 13, 2014

Present: Marie Esher Coia, Jackie D'Agostino, David Holewinski, Lynn Bush, Lorraine Moxey, Dave Fermier, Robyne Kelemen, Stephen Barth. Excused: Deb Byrne, Bob Belchic, Donna von Lipsey, Don Borden, Steve Geisler

Chair M Coia, called the meeting to order 7:36 PM. Minutes from the December 12, 2013 meeting were read and accepted.

Marie announced that Chris Forlano and David Joss have resigned from the committee.

Old Business:

Del Val Communications: Stephen Barth is scheduled to meet with Dr. Brosnan next week in an effort to continue to build the relationship between the borough and the college. Stephen will ask if the college is still willing to make their grant writer available to assist the borough. Marie has been in contact with April Vari, VP of Student Affairs, who said she will join this committee as a representative for the college.

Newsletter: The spring issue will spotlight McCabe and Brady Physical Therapy and welcome the new dry cleaners and frame shop to our borough. Stephen suggested Chant Engineering be featured within the Spotlight section of our next newsletter.

Redevelopment and Revitalization-

Bitzer's: The building was demolished due to damage caused by the storms this past winter. The environmental report did identify contamination on the site. Stephen is going to reach out to the current owner of the property to determine what his plans are for the property and to let him know that the borough is willing to work with him in support of redevelopment of that site.

Stephen Barth Update: Stephen provided his monthly report to the committee. Over the past month, he has met with several business owners in the borough and surrounding communities to share our vision for the future of our borough. He has also identified and met with potential developers regarding their interest in properties within the borough.

Knoll Property: An open meeting and tour of the property occurred on January 4, 2014. Stephen continues to meet with the current purchaser of the property to discuss possible solutions to develop this property while maintaining the vision we have for our borough.

Three Strategic Themes for New Britain Borough's Economic Development- Lynn Bush: Lynn continues to work with her staff to pull the results of this committee's efforts together to show the vision we have for the borough.

New Business:

Comprehensive Plan Update- Jeff Gilmore has tasked the Planning Commission to update the current plan.

TCDI Grant- Lynn and Stephen suggested we apply for this DVRPC grant. A mandatory pre-meeting will be held on March 18th for anyone interested in applying for this grant. Marie and Jackie will attend this meeting as representatives of the borough. The purpose of this grant is for planning of projects.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM. The next meeting will be April 10, 2014 at 7:30 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted: Jackie D'Agostino