

Selinsgrove Projects Inc. Board of Director's Meeting
Tuesday, February 19, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Jessica Newell at 6:07 PM

Attendance: Present: Brian Ross, Jessica Newell, John Lazur, Rich Mease, Sara Lauver, Nina Mandel

Guests: Lindsay Trick, Jake Stiefel, Lindsey Groce

Not Present: Sean Christine, Malcolm Derk

Correction to December 2019 Minutes: An error was found in the minutes from the December 2019 SPI meeting. Under the Façade Grant section, Shane Hendricks was mentioned. This information is incorrect. The Façade Grant committee members are Malcolm Derk, Shane Ulrich and Bo Fasold. A motion to correct this error was made by Sara Lauver. Second by Jessica Newell. Motion passed.

Monthly Minutes: A motion to accept the January minutes as submitted was made by John Lazur. Second by Rich Mease. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Brian Ross presented the treasurer's report. There has not been much activity thus far this month with the exception of the monthly rent, utilities and payroll. Brian presented us with the a budget overview for January-December 2019 showing a deficit of \$65,015. A motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted was made by Rich Mease. Second by John Lazur. Motion passed.

Historical Group: Jake Stiefel joined the group to follow-up for the last time to see if SPI is willing to have the historical group become a committee of SPI. The group is willing to send a representative to the SPI board meetings and assist with SPI activities. The main objective of the group is to preserve the history of Selinsgrove. A meeting for the historical group is scheduled for tomorrow night. The main goal is to find a place to house the digital files like a website. This information should be accessible to people who are interested in finding it. There are a few different templates they are working with at this point like an open source interactive website but the main problem is finding a place for this information. There is the possibility of adding some of this information to the SPI website. If there were funds available they could provide assistance with the project, which would be helpful, but the group isn't sure if that's a necessity at this point but they will have content available and ready to go very soon. If this group were to become a subcommittee of SPI they would do their own fundraising. A motion to vote to on whether or not to make the Selinsgrove historical group a subcommittee of SPI was made by Nina Mandel. Second by Rich Mease. Motion passed. The group has been asked to provide an official name, list of objectives and complete committee list for the March board of director's meeting.

Administrative update: Lindsay Trick reported that things have been busy at the office. Lots of phone calls are already coming in about this year's Market Street Festival. The computer issue still needs to be addressed as we have yet to purchase a laptop. This has delayed the monthly newsletter because none of the SPI computers have Microsoft Publisher on them and that is the software that has been used to create the newsletter. This was voted on and approved at an earlier SPI meeting. Nina has offered to help go with Lindsay to pick out a computer and purchase it as long as she would be reimbursed for it. Another option would be to get an estimate from a business such as Best Buy, taking our tax exempt account information so that we know the exact cost and could then cut a check for the computer.

Promotions Committee: Sara Lauver reported that a new time and date should be determined for future promotion committee meetings. The group is still in need of a chair and this should be a board member. If there are any board members willing to step up and take on this responsibility, please let Sara know. Joyce Hendricks has offered to assist but since she is no longer on the board there should be another chair. It was also requested that chairs of other SPI committees attend the promotions meetings. This would help bring some additional action items to the forefront and possibly adding additional admins to the Facebook page would help so that the responsibility doesn't fall solely on Sara and Lindsay. The promotions committee also suggested that Lindsay take over the responsibility of the Local Gems article since she is the primary writer of all articles for the newsletter. In the past the articles were written by Carol Handlan and Joyce Hendricks.

Economic Revitalization Committee: The group is currently looking for a replacement for Matt Viens. The group is also reaching out to Kelly at the incubator for an update. There has been some discussion about additional display cases to promote the new downtown businesses which include the framing store that will be opening soon and the dog trainer, Krysta Posner. Shady Pines has relocated to their new location at 22 South Market Street. Sushi Masa is doing well but there have been cars towed because no agreement was made with Phoenix Rehabilitation about parking. It may be helpful for someone to try to facilitate that relationship so that things improve there and this problem doesn't continue. Renovations are still taking place at the old Stereo Shoppe building and sale of the former J.Kleinbauer building is still in progress. There was some feedback on Facebook regarding the repainting of BJ's and the fact that they are not handicapped accessible. Malcolm wrote an appropriate reply to the comments that were posted.

Farmers' Market: Sara Lauver reported that the Farmers' Market opening day will be May 18th and the season will run until November 16th. The holiday markets are also already scheduled for this year. There will be one held on November 23rd and the second on December 7th. The hours for the holiday markets will be 10 AM to 2 PM instead of the regular Farmers' Market hours which are 9 AM to 1 PM.

Discovery Trails: no report

Selinsgrove Area Chamber of Commerce: There was no representative from the Selinsgrove Area Chamber of Commerce this month. Last month Helen Walter joined the group and mentioned some items that she felt could be addressed for events being held in the commons going forward. If a member of the Selinsgrove Area Chamber of Commerce is not willing to send a representative to SPI meetings then SPI will need to change its bylaws.

Commons: John Lazur reported that he reviewed the budget and the commons were over by \$1600 last year, most of this was due to snow removal. John will get an estimate from Jessie to take care of the fence. If we were to go with the camera installations the cost would be \$13352, John spoke to Paul Williams at the borough, Malcolm Derk from Susquehanna University also representative Fred Keller and unfortunately there are no state or federal funds available to help defray the cost of the cameras. We have received two different estimates for an awning for the stage, one from Glick which was approximately \$12,000 and another one from Bev Owens which was about \$4500 so that there would be a cover over the stage. We could place canvas on the back. The material will be donated. John's concern is snowfall and how heavy it would be. The awning would need to be removed and apparently the weight of the material would be between 100-150 pounds. There may be other options that we could look at instead of going this route. John has also been working with Malcolm on the commons permit and mentioned putting in a clause for liability and indemnification. They hope to have a draft ready for the March meeting. John and Malcolm are also working on the religious points of the commons usage application. The commons committee has also decided to hold off on the plaque for the time being. Donna Schuck got another estimate but until there are more funds available it wouldn't make sense to go ahead and spend such a large amount of money on the plaque. All the faulty electrical plates in the commons have been replaced. John also spoke to Kevin about the receptacle at the end of the market. He also reminded him that produce should not be thrown in the shrubs. An estimate will be obtained to fix the arborvitae which was damaged from the snow. Spring planting will be discussed at the Tuesday meeting. There are still issues with dog waste in the commons. John asked for a donation to care for the commons from other committees such as the Farmers' Market, White Christmas or perhaps Gelnett funds. We need to determine how the downtown watering is going to be handled this year since Carol will not be doing it any longer. Some suggestions included speaking to a few different places that might be willing to water such as churches. Is there someone available who would do it? There would need to be a place to store the watering cart and that would need to be accessible to the person(s) who would take on this responsibility. The watering cart requires electricity and needs to be plugged in daily. It was suggested to put a post on social media to see if we would be able to get volunteers to do this; if not perhaps we don't do it this year?

Jessica Newell stated that Lindsey Groce will be eligible for board member approval at the March meeting.

With no further business, President Jessica Newell adjourned the meeting at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Trick

Administrative Support
Selinsgrove Projects, Inc.