

## Selinsgrove Projects, Inc. Minutes of Board of Directors' Meeting

January 17, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Carol Handlan at 6:05 p.m.

**Attendance:** Present: Carol Handlan, Rick Mease, Sean Christine, Sara Lauver, Mike Coyne (left at 6:25pm), Bruce Johnson and Joyce Hendricks.

**Absent:** none

**Others present:** Brian Ross, Paul Donecker, Lindsay Trick, Paul Williams, John Lazur, David Zellers and Ann Moyer.

**Review and approval of minutes from November 2016 and December 2016:** Due to lack of a quorum, a December meeting was not held. The November minutes and Financial Statements were approved via electronic email.

**Treasurer's Report:** A motion made to accept the financials and budget as submitted by Bruce Johnson, second by Rick Mease. Motion passed.

**Comments from Public:** David Zellers from the Pennsylvania Downtown Center of DCED came to the meeting to discuss the future of our Main Street Manager Program. He shared growth trends and what is driving many towns to succeed. It was also disclosed that in the state of PA there are only 33 Main Street programs in operation, 9 are ending this year and 5 are in review. Some important points for us to remember moving forward are:

- How can we stay involved if we do not continue the Main Street program?
- Long term planning is vital to the success of businesses and the community alike.
- Identifying a new funding source to provide the salary for a Main Street Manager.

Paul Donecker represented the Selinsgrove Area Chamber of Commerce. There is an upcoming event on January 30th at All Saints Episcopal Church at 6:30 pm. Bob Garrett, President of the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce will be facilitating the meeting. Mr. Garrett will be assisting the group in identifying challenges we face as a community. He will also be helping the group with the creation of a new Borough Comprehensive Plan for Selinsgrove. Paul also stated that he believes the Selinsgrove Area Chamber is a 501 (c) 6, he is going to confirm this.

Carol Handlan thanked the Borough staff and Sara Lauver for the Facebook blasts that allowed us to sell roughly \$1,000 of the SPI Merchandise we had in storage.

## **Old Business:**

**Clock Assessment:** We are still awaiting the clock estimate from Verdin.

**Promotions Committee:** Carol Handlan reported that the group has approved the next billboard. Carol is working with Lamar Advertising. The new billboard will go up directly following Valentine's Day. Due to lighting problems with the billboard, Lamar has waived the monthly fee for the last two months. Carol will be available 2 times a month to discuss any problem/necessary changes. Matthew Potter, a senior at Susquehanna University is working with Helen Walter they are going to be putting out a question survey to stakeholders, business owners and other interested community members. Carol will be provided with a copy of the survey prior to distribution. The committee is also in the planning stages of a Restaurant week.

Further efforts must be made to recognize Susquehanna University. They provide a great deal of support to the community in many different ways and we need to share this with the public.

**Design Committee:** No update

**Discovery Trails:** No update

**Selinsgrove Commons:** Bruce Johnson introduced John Lazur, retired dentist. John will be joining the Selinsgrove Commons Committee. A motion was made by Bruce Johnson to accept the list of members of the Commons Committee. Second by Joyce Hendricks. Motion passed.

Bruce also reported that we have received a \$1750 grant from Gelnett for the Commons. A check for \$1750 must be cut to the borough for the commons. It was also shared at this time that SPI was also awarded matching funds through the Gelnett Trust: \$550 for the Farmers' Market and \$7754.50 for White Christmas. SPI must match the amount awarded. A motion was made to approve the matching funds that were awarded through the Gelnett Grant for all initiatives by Rick Mease. Second by Joyce Hendricks. Motion passed.

Bruce also shared that the tree in the Commons will be taken down in March.

## **Events:**

**Hops, Vines and Wines Fest:** No update

**Market Street Festival:** Letter for 2017 festival has been reviewed and approved by Joyce Hendricks. She will work with Lindsay Trick to ensure everything is done according to schedule.

**Halloween Parade:** No update

**White Christmas:** A meeting will be held on January 19th. The group will be finalizing the budget at this meeting. The snowflakes will be taken down in February.

**Santa Music Fest:** Carol Handlan reported that we have received some feedback for this year's event. The event will be held on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**TBiz:** Carol Handlan reported that the TBiz program ceased operations on Wednesday, December 21st. Earnings from October to December 21st was \$80.00. These funds were deposited into the SPI general fund. An inventory of instruments was completed. Lindsay Trick is working with Mary Jo Tavares from the Arts Council to insure all items are accounted for. We will look for another program/group to donate the instruments to in the coming weeks.

**New Business:**

**Membership in Selinsgrove Area Chamber of Commerce:** Carol Handlan reported that Selinsgrove Projects Inc. is not a member of the Selinsgrove Area Chamber of Commerce. In the past SPI had been listed as a member because we host Selinsgrove.net and still direct any phone calls received on the SPI phone number, which once belonged to the Selinsgrove Area Chamber. We will be submitting an application and request that the membership fee of \$65 be waived.

**Rescheduling of April Board of Director's Meeting:** Rick Mease asked that consideration be made to reschedule the April meeting from April 18th to April 11th as he will be out of the country on a trip. This will be voted upon at the February meeting.

With no further business, Carol Handlan adjourned the meeting at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lindsay N. Trick*

Administrative Assistant, Selinsgrove Projects Inc.