

MINUTES

Economic Development Committee

August 14, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Village Hall, 120 S Main, St, Port Byron, IL

Call to order

Chair Wes Wells called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

Roll Call/ Establishment of a Quorum

Roll call: Present: Barb Cray, Barb Cartwright, Terry Foust, Ron Jacobs, Patty Lindley,
Wes Wells

Absent: None

Gallery- Questions and Comments

Dr. Mike Reisner and Alex Cohen from Upper Mississippi Center for Sustainable Communities at Augustana College attended to make a presentation

The Center is a university-community partnership that mobilizes Augustana's resources to help communities solve sustainability challenges facing urban and rural communities

In past, they have partnered with city of Clinton, Iowa, and Scott County Health Dept

They are in the early stages of recruiting partners for 2018, and reached out to Port Byron as a possibility

They have done many kinds of studies/projects, including:

1. creating an urban forest management plan,
2. developing a more financially sustainable cost allocation model for the recreational department,
3. conducting a survey of citizen perceptions and priorities for city services,
4. assisting small businesses in developing business and/or marketing plans to address ongoing challenges,
5. creating design standards to guide downtown development,
6. developing a predictive risk model of child lead poisoning exposure,
7. evaluating the feasibility and pros and cons of alternative local funding strategies to pay for home lead abatement/remediation,
8. begin building the coalition necessary to tackle this public health crisis over the next decade,
9. assessing the condition of housing across the different risk categories
10. conducting lead screenings of water, soil, paint, and dust for interested renters and homeowners.

We agreed to identify several possible projects/studies and submit them to the Center for consideration

There is cost involved, but cannot be determined until projects identified and agreed upon

Administrative

A: Approve meeting minutes from June 12, 2017 (no meeting held in July)

Motion made by Patty Lindley and seconded by Terry Foust to approve 6/12/2017 Minutes

All "Ayes" – Minutes approved

Old business

A. Academy Site update – no updates

B. Dorrance Park update

1. Trail building is going well
2. 1st loop is done, 2nd loop underway, bridge looks good
3. Could there be cross-country skiing on trails at Dorrance
4. Could there also be disc golf possibly – what would that take?

New business

A. Ice rink

1. Village received information from a company that produces portable and easily erected ice rinks, in various sizes
2. Will investigate cost and maintenance requirements, as well as potential location

B. 2018 Christmas Walk

1. It was felt that combining Village Christmas Walk with the Library Christmas and the Methodist Church's Christmas Traditions would be a very positive community event
2. We need to contact the church and the library to settle on a date and combine activities and publicity

Gallery, Questions, and Comments

Ron Jacobs was approached about the possibility of a Halloween parade, so need to work on that prospect; the Fire Department and Knapp Storage have big events on the actual day of Halloween; is Library doing an outdoor movie on a different date? Patty will check

Ron also said that, at the Will to Ben bike ride last year, Riverdale Schools never got paid for the bicyclers staying there

Adjourn

Moved by Terry Foust and seconded by Barb Cartwright to adjourn – all “Ayes”
Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Cray