

MINUTES

Economic Development Committee

January 8, 2018, 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 6:00 pm

Roll Call/ Establishment of a Quorum

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

Absent: Barb Cartwright

Also in attendance: Mayor Peterson

Gallery- Questions and Comments

None

Administrative:

A. Approve meeting minutes from November 13 meeting

Motion made by Patty Lindley and seconded by Terry Foust to approve November minutes

All "Ayes" – Minutes approved

Old business

A. Augustana Grant application

1) This Committee has spoken with two individuals, Michael Reisner and Alex Cohen, from Augustana Upper Mississippi Center in the past

2) There is an opportunity to submit a proposal to be a Community Partner for the Sustainable Working Landscapes Initiative for 2018-2010

3) Proposal asks for identification of high-priority projects to build community, to be done in conjunction with team(s) from Augustana College

4) Applications will be accepted until 2/16/18

5) Committee consensus was to pursue an application

6) Will review and vote next meeting on submission

Motion made by Ron Jacobs and seconded by Patty Lindley to pursue Augustana partnership

Roll Call #1: Ayes: Ron Jacobs, Patty Lindley, Terry Foust, Wes Wells, Barb Cray

Nays: None - Motion Carried

New business

A. Discussion of possible Economic Development models

1) Looked at a variety of various ideas and web pages from other communities as to how they approach economic development

2) Barb Cray talked about revamping our web page, specifically dealing with our businesses, to be more of a focus on local businesses, in the hopes that that would encourage new businesses

B. "Eggstravaganza"

1) Wes Wells told of an event, an "Adult Easter Egg Hunt"

2) There is an entry fee; eggs are hidden with prizes, which are a variety of things

3) Done in partnership with local businesses, and conducted at night

4) Too late this year to get it organized, but will add to next year's planning

C. Brainstorm for February

1) Wes Wells asked each member to come to the next meeting with ideas (ideally 3) for Community Development that we have not yet discussed

Gallery - Questions and Comments

Mayor Peterson spoke with president of a Midwest grocery store chain to see if any interest in Port Byron – basic answer was that not profitable enough
He also stated that he plans to find a way to grade an area large enough to install the ice rink next winter

Adjourn

Moved by Ron Jacobs and seconded by Terry Foust to adjourn – all “Ayes”
Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Cray