

Western Route 40 Business Association

June 16, 2015

The June 16th meeting was called to order at 8:10 A.M. The meeting was held at the Main Street Café. There were approximately 10 members in attendance.

There were no minute from May 20 invitational meeting as there was no action taken at the meeting, however results will be provided at this meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: There was no treasurer's report was not available.

CAPRI: No formal actions were taken at the monthly meeting. Capri has reviewed the survey results and will have additional input.

BANNER PROJECT: This is an ongoing project. It was reported that letters are ready to be sent.

POLICE REPORT: No report

BUSINESS ASSOCIATION:

COMMUNITY NEWS:

CHURCHES: No events reported as it is Bible School week for churches

LOCAL – Three Ridges Fourth of July Festival will be held at the West Alexander Fair Grounds on 4th of July. Entertainment will be held throughout the day.

Survey Results:

People who attended the meeting thought the priority was the parking lot and concert series were significant items that could be immediately address. Many local bands could be solicited to perform. This will depend on the park board, borough, and township approving such an event. We would need a summer concert committee to research and come up with information. A question was asked about funding and sponsors.

It was stated that Pike Days might be too early for a concert. A Discussion ensued on possible support for Pike Days and using the concert series to add support to Pike Days.

Challenges considered were:

- Sponsorship
- Fire Department participation
- Police participation
- Committee of volunteers
- Funding
- Communications w/ other agencies

Signage was the next rated item. It would be useful for Claysville and the area to have an Electronic Billboard such as that located on the interstate near Washington, PA.

Challenges:

- Location
- Funding
 - o How to fund – advertisements was suggested and business sponsorship and investment
- Someone with IT experience to lead

Along with this came a discussion about a web site. There is currently a web site sponsored by the Claysville Business Association (Western Route 40 Business Association). The question was asked whether or not we should hire someone to develop an enhanced website and increase the information available to residents of the area.

Challenges:

- A centrally located “meeting house” (web site) with links
 - o Allow groups to have restricted access
 - o Work with township and borough to link with web site
 - o
- Information of “Doodle Calendar” was provided
 - o Allows groups to put events on a calendar
 - o Restricted Access
- Linking Claysville and West Alexander to the Washington County Web Site

It was reported that Donegal Township had a web site that could be an opportunity which the Business association could possibly link.

- Contact will be made with the Washington Area Tourism Promotion Agency for information on the process.

Gateway signs was a consideration gleaned from the survey:

Challenges:

- Vision
- Cost
 - o It was suggested that businesses could possibly fund the initial cost with their investment returned through advertising sold
- State Laws
- Ownership
- Design
- How to address
- Who will take the lead

Kathy Prescott will reach out to Shirley Smith regarding previous information researched.

A lengthy discussion was held concerning businesses in town that are vacant.

- **Hardware store**
 - o Code
 - Whether grandfathered
 - Derrick at Lindsey dentistry family had some interest in the facility
 - It might be possible for easier development since the borough had a new code enforcement agency
 - There are building codes that would apply when a business is for public use.
 - Would it would be possible for a hardware store similar to Lehman to be established?

It was mentioned that **mining** is becoming a significant problem in the area.

- a point of contact/representative should be appointed to determine
 - Plans for the area
 - Reclamation procedures and plans
 - Who is the contact for CONSOL Mining
 - Who owns
 - What are they doing with the property
- Donegal Township has been provided with information on time frame and a map of intended mining.

Meeting times:

We usually have all meetings at 8 A.M. on the third Tuesday of the month. A suggestion was made that we have a meeting in the evening once every quarter.

Ross Bevevino made a motion that a meeting be held once a quarter in the evening. Kim Shoup seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

A concern was voiced about the quorum needed to pass a motion. The answer will be provided.

Wes Parry suggested we continue to review challenges and vision for the future.

A motion was made by Kathy Prescott to adjourn, a Second was given by Ross Bevevino. Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 A.M. The next meeting will on July 21 at Main Street Café.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katherine Prescott, Secretary

