

KUTZTOWN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2009

Mtg Date: Thursday, February 5, 2009

Time: 8:00 – 8:58am

Attendees: Amy Bray, Kevin Snyder, Sandy Green, Niki Miller, Kim Davis, John Scott, Gina Wiand, Rachael Birckbichler, Gabriel Khalife, Meghan Godorov, Erica Hesselton, Caecilia Holt, Val Lastis – Reading Eagle.

Public Comment

- None.

Minutes from the 1/9/09 meeting

Action → On a motion by Kevin with a second by Kim, the Committee unanimously approved the January minutes.

Manager Report

- Election of 2009 Officers was held with results as follows: Amy Bray, President; Kevin Snyder, Vice-President; Niki Miller, Treasurer; John Scott, Secretary.

Borough Report

- Gabriel updated attendees on various projects including bridgework on Route 222, roof replacements at Borough Hall and the recycling facility and a new Police Chief being announced in about a month's time. The old Farmhouse on the Borough Farm is slated for demolition due to its deteriorating condition. An environmental assessment is being performed as a result of the building's close proximity to the Borough's wells. The final renovations for the Train Station, which include refinishing the floor and installing audio/visual equipment, are scheduled to be completed this year. And finally, the schedule for the "Concerts in the Park" series is being finalized for this summer. KCP has donated to these concerts in the past and will do so again this year.

Treasurer's Report

- Niki reported the checking account balance is \$8,230.58.
- There is a \$5000+ CD at National Penn Bank and a \$10,000+ CD at Citizens Bank.
- The 2008 year end report will be available at the March meeting.
- Gina questioned the invoice for the printing of the last newsletter which Borough records show is still outstanding. Niki did not show an entry for that payment and requested a new invoice.

Kutztown University Report

- Meghan reviewed the list of events on the agenda. She also announced advertising opportunities for any area business during her radio show "Town/Gown on Common Ground". And lastly, a amendment to the last newsletter is necessary to correct the time for the Block Party. An insert will be included with the March utility bill.

Promotion Team

- The Spring/Summer newsletter is finished and has been distributed.

Historic Preservation

- No update.

Design Team

- No update.

Economic Development

- The Economic Restructuring Committee met with Geoff Brace from the PA Downtown Center to review market statistics for our area including a zip code survey that was performed during this past holiday shopping season. The study revealed a concentration of shoppers from the Lehigh Valley

more so than the Reading area. Attendees included local residential developers and KU's SBDC Director, Ernie Post.

Fundraising/Event Planning

- Please see the agenda for a current listing of events scheduled for 2009. Erica added the Friend, Inc. Bowl-a-Thon on March 1 at Berks Lanes in Reading.

Old Business

- No items.

New Business

- *First Saturday Program* – It has been suggested that Social Sunday become the First Saturday Program. KCP will consult other business owners for input.
- *Rileighs Outdoor Annual Christmas Sale* – Sandy received a flier advertising a “buy two, get one free” promotion on the wreaths purchased for the new streetlights. The Lioness Club has already expressed an interest in purchasing one wreath. Meghan confirmed OCAC would be interested as well. If this is the case, then we will be able to have 3 new wreaths to add to the 8 purchased previously by KCP. The topic was raised again to obtain quotes on additional street lights in the 200 block of West Main Street and advertising this sum as a target for KCP fundraisers. As funds are not available at the municipal level, a grassroots effort may be necessary.

Miscellaneous/Off-Agenda

- It was suggested that all businesses be called for a special meeting to discuss several ideas affecting downtown – closing the 200 block on a routine basis to allow for pedestrian only access, creating a First Saturday program vs. Social Sundays, etc.
- Gina has received quotes on new KCP letterhead, envelopes and thank you cards, with Colisanti Printing being the lowest to date.
- Caecilia Holt thanked the Committee for its support with the KASD reorganization issue. She suggested contacting Thomas Hylton, the renowned community planner from Pottstown, who visited Kutztown last year to gain his perspective on this issue.
- Amy reported the Community Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 4. Although the turnout was low, the rate of new volunteers was high.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58am.