Huntingdon Borough Community Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 4, 2021

The Huntingdon Borough Community Development Committee meeting was held in the Borough Council Room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652, virtually by Webex Conference, Huntingdon Borough Facebook page and in-person.

Committee member present was Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown.

Committee members virtually were President Johnathan Hyde and Vice-President Sean Steeg.

Members present were Councilman David Quarry, Councilman David Fortson, Councilman James Bair, Councilman Terry Green, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown called the Community Development Committee meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

There were no guest virtually or present for this meeting.

Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown called on the Grants Administrators report.

Chris Stevens reported the Solar Street lights have been ordered and when they come in they will be shipped to us.

Chris Stevens said that PA One Calls have been made and it will take each block about a half a day.

Chris Stevens said there are 27 Solar Street Lights.

Chris Stevens said that once we receive them, we will then do the PA One Call.

Chris Stevens reported that GHD has submitted the Boat Launch diagram and this has been approved and we are waiting on permits.

Chris Stevens said that he has not heard on the Walk Way under the Smithfield Bridge.

Chris Stevens said that Bryant Park will start this spring and the Marcella Shale Grant we received from the County will be used to buy tables, small plants, tree rings and pavers.

James Bair asked about the Microenterprise Loan program.

Chris Stevens said he believes we are getting close, that some wording needed changed.

Chris Stevens talked about Dee Dee Brown being on the loan committee and chairman of the Community Development Committee that there is a problem.

Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown said that she would abstain from voting on this issue, when brought to Borough Council.

There was a discussion on the Microenterprise Loan on what the amount of the loans would be or capped at.

Chris Stevens said that we will advertise that applications are available and there will be 1% interest charged. Chris said that Huntingdon Borough will be administering the money and receiving payments.

Chris Stevens said that this will be for existing businesses or new businesses coming into Huntingdon Borough.

Chris Stevens said that we need to set a deadline for applications to be returned.

Chris Stevens reported that the dates for Borough Clean-up will be Friday, April 16th thru Sunday, April 18th to set items out and pick-up will be April 19th thru April 23rd.

**The Huntingdon Borough Community Development Committee recommends a motion to have Borough Clean-up week, April 16th thru April 18th to set items out and pick-up will be April 19th thru April 23rd.**

Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown called for any old business.

Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown said she is looking at the Main Street Managers program with Adam Miller and she wants to do some research. Dee Dee said that Adam is checking with Bedford on their Main Street Manager and wants to circulate thru Huntingdon Borough business for their input on what they would like to see and looking at grants and budgets for this.

Sean Steeg asked if there was anything that she was looking for.

Seas Steeg said that Huntingdon Landmarks has been working on this for a year and a half.

Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown said that she wants to look for grants available, go to Bedford to see what they do, and if we can afford it.

Sean Steeg said there is a lot of information out there and he said about maybe getting PA Downtown representative in.

Johnathan Hyde said there will be multiple rules this person can do. Johnathan said we will have the Amphitheater that she could have events, fill store fronts, bring people into Huntingdon Borough and focus on the downtown area.

Chris Stevens asked who pays Bedford Main Street Manager salary?

Johnathan Hyde said that businesses in Bedford helps pay this.

Chris Stevens said that we should have Landmarks come to the next Community Development Committee meeting.

Johnathan Hyde said the borough is not on the hook for this persons salary.

Sean Steeg said Landmarks has secured a building for this person and it will be a Welcome Center for Tourism to bring people into Huntingdon.

There was other discussion on this, like will this be a borough employee or not and who will tell them what they should be doing and who will be paying this person.

Sean Steeg said that Landmarks, since they have been working on this will need to decide.

After no further business, the Community Development Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:48 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary