

PCEDA Meeting September 14, 2017

Attendance: Frank Campbell, Roger Smith, Rich Pluta, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Christie Young, Patti McLaughlin, Jim Fuller, Paul Rudy, Dawn Lowe, Russ Hoover, John Gerner, June Reisinger, Marti Roberts, Morgan Tressler, Michelle Jones,

Excused absence: Derek Whitesel

Unexcused: Brenda Watson, Steve Peters

Public: Jason Finnerty

Meeting called to order at 8:04 a.m. No public comment.

Secretary Report: John did not see the minutes in Dropbox, suggested we email minutes with agenda so they're easier to access. John motioned we table approving minutes. Patti seconded. All approved.

Treasurer Report: Russ posted report in Dropbox. Not much other than office expenses and payroll. Balance at \$9,647.00 Kevin motioned to approve and June seconded. Rich asked about PSU Extension reimbursement. Motion carried.

Chair report: Marti will submit a written request for two years funding to commissioners, for \$50,000 each year, it will include a past budget and budget for 2018. Commissioners try to have a budget ready for public comment by the end of November. Discussion ensued about how to request disbursement if EDA is funded - quarterly, bi-annual, etc. Michelle's hours have been pared back and without any extraordinary expenses, EDA will have a balance of approximately \$1,000 - \$2,000 at year end. Kevin attended last commissioners meeting and observed significant misunderstanding about the difference between the EDA and the EDC. He suggested that some people are trying to further a public confusion intentionally. Discussion ensued about the misconceptions, the perceptions, and if the EDA could provide any clarity regarding the EDC and/or Business Park. For the first time, agriculture is not the biggest industry in the county – manufacturing is. Many of these “small” manufacturers are located on farms. Discussion ensued. Discussion ensued about creating a 501c3. Adam Britcher provided some guidance: Entities must be separate and distinct – may be some cross over with 1- 3 board members, depending upon the size of new non-profit Board which should be 7-9 members. The non-profit could seek funding for projects identified by EDA and possibly the Chamber. There are different options to create a 501c3 – microenterprise, rural business co-op, etc.

Brenda Benner organized a meeting for Monday, October 2, at 1 pm. In commissioners meeting room – SEDACOG will describe the services they provide to the county. Let Michelle know if you will attend.

Old/New Business:

- DiSanto advisory boards – sign up online to participate.
- Farm Fest update, Jim says “On target.”
- Jason discussed how he reports his work during Township officials and at County planning meetings – updates about development plans, census, bridge repair, etc. There is not an active work group for the comprehensive plan.
- The natural gas co-op is moving forward.
- Rog broke the news that he's moving to Cape Cod and this is his last meeting.

Paul motioned to adjourned, Christie seconded. Motion carried.