

## **WES Hanover Business Association**

**November 10, 2016**

### **Meeting Minutes**

The WES Hanover Business Association met on Thursday November 10, 2016 at the West Hanover Recreation Center for breakfast at 7:15 am. The meeting started at 7:30 am with Bette Porter, president, presiding. She called the meeting to order and welcomed 18 members. There were no guests in attendance. Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance to the American flag followed by prayer by Pastor Randy Hunt of Susquehanna Valley Evangelical Free Church.

In honor of Veterans Day Natalie Kratzer of Thrivent Financial sang "God Bless America".

Each person introduced themselves and the business they represent. Dave Finger of Blue Mountain Stone mentioned that today in honor of Veterans Day, Bob Rogers is participating in the "Feed a Vet" program. If you buy a \$5 gift card and a sub, a gift card will be donated to a veteran.

The only November birthday is Stephanie Albrecht.

We voted for 2017 board members. Next year's officers will be Bette Porter, President, Mike Geppert, Vice President and Jan Bahrat, Treasurer. No secretary was selected. (Members may volunteer to help out monthly – so far we have Diane Suhr and Deb Fleisher who volunteered to help with the minutes)

Bette once again asked everyone to spread the word about our association to those who live or have their business in the WES locations as well as our neighboring areas. Bette also reminded everyone that 2017 annual dues are now due. They can be given to either Bette Porter or mailed to her at Fulton Bank, 7761 Allentown Blvd. Harrisburg, PA 17112. Thanks to all who have already renewed.

We are still looking for any active members who would help with the membership committee. The goal is to call or go out and visit local businesses and let them know about our organization. (Since the meeting we now have 3 members who have volunteered to be part of the membership committee – they are Natalie Kratzer, Tony Acri and Mike Geppert!!)

Bette handed out the invitation to this year's Christmas party being held Friday December 9th at the Linglestown American Legion with entertainment from Charles Lee. Cost is \$10 for members and for each guest they bring. 6:00 p.m. is gathering time and appetizers followed with buffet dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please let Bette know if you are planning on being there.

Thanks to all who sponsored a month in 2016. If you would like to sponsor a month in 2017 please let Bette know. She passed around the 2017 signup sheet for anyone who already knows what month they would like to sponsor. We have 3 open slots left – June 8<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup> and October 12<sup>th</sup> available.

Bette shared a thank you letter we received from the West Hanover Park and Recreation Staff for our contribution of \$100 for an ad in the 2016 Community Festival booklet.

Bob Stern has confirmed that the date for next year's golf outing will be Friday September 8th, 2017 at Deer Valley Golf Course at 8:00 a.m.

#### Reports:

- 1) Treasurers Report= Tom Stewart reported the current balance is \$4,752.85. Mike Yingling of Delta Remax made a motion to accept, seconded by Mike Geppert of Hillcrest Properties. All approved.
- 2) Minutes to October's meeting were emailed to all members. Motion made by Mike Yingling of Delta Remax to accept as read, seconded by Tom Stewart, WHT tax collector. All approved.
- 3) East Hanover Township – Paul Cornell – a) the new Public Works building is well underway. Substantial completion is expected to be done by Dec 23. b) A committee is currently being formed to work on some long term issues. c) The 2017 budget is in process. No tax increases are expected.
- 4) West Hanover Township – Gloria Zimmerman - a) Creekvale phase 2 & 3 (on Rt 39) has been sent to Dauphin County Planning commission for comments. b) Approved abandonment of emergency access road in the Brynfield development. c) Storage building at Parks and Recreation is complete. d) Approved closing Manor Rd between Skyline Drive and Sunset Dr Nov 9th from 9:30am to 2:30 pm and possibly the 10<sup>th</sup>. e) Approved a scope of work by HRG engineers. f) Voted to advertise 2017 budget. g) There will be new fees for the compost center (advertised in the newsletter). h) We are always looking for volunteers. i) Senior lunch next Thurs. Call to register, If you know any seniors who would enjoy a \$5 or \$6 meal and entertainment, tell them about our lunch. j) Dec 10<sup>th</sup> is breakfast with Santa. k) Dec 11<sup>th</sup> is the Historical Society Annual Yule Log in conjunction with the West Hanover Twp Fire Co and the Parks and Recreation Dept. It will be held at the Recreation building. l) There are still spots left on the bus trip for New York on your own. m) On Saturday Jan 7 there will be a game day from 10am to 4pm open to all ages. Come for the whole day or just stop in for a few hours. It is being held at the Rec Center.
- 5) South Hanover Township – Penny Pollick
  1. The Township building is nearing completion with a move in date of December 1<sup>st</sup> and dedication date of December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. All are invited. Building costs were roughly \$9.4 million dollars but with monies saved over the years by the Board and quite a few grants being issued the final borrowed amount will be right around \$3 million.
  2. There will be No tax increases for this year.
  3. The Fire Station is completed and the fire company moved in last weekend.
  4. The Township is also looking at long term issues, our Act 537 Plan being one of them.

5. The Budget is nearing completion and the Board should tentatively approve it at their next meeting.
6. The Dauphin County Commissioners held a public hearing on Gaming Grants. The Supreme Court declared that Pennsylvania's casino laws were unconstitutional and that the provisions currently in place violate the State Constitution because it imposed different tax rates on casinos depending on their size. The ruling struck down the Municipal portion of the local share tax paid by slot machine earnings. The Hollywood Casino's Board of Directors announced that regardless of the State's ruling they would hold up their end of the bargain and entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the County to contribute \$6.5 million dollars to our local gaming grant programs.

This month's speaker / sponsor was Natalie Kratzer of Thrivent Financial. She gave us a brief history of the company and then did a review of the many products/services that they offer. She provided handouts for everyone to follow. She entertained several questions in reference to long term care at the end of her presentation.

There will be no December meeting. See you all at our annual Christmas party Friday December 9 at the Linglestown American Legion.

Our next meeting will be Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> at the Skyline Family Restaurant on 7510 Allentown Blvd. Hbg. Pa. 17112 at 7:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Fleisher, Secretary