

Meeting Notes

Meeting Called to order at 8:03 AM

Attendees: David Stone- Edward Jones, Luke Dretske- City Council and County Board, Emmett Durtschi- BASD, Rebecca Bays- Senior Center and Recreation Programming, Tim Ludolph- City Planning and Development

Ludolph discussed with the group present to discuss the sustainability of the function of Community Team – written to be a partnership of individuals who enhance the attributes of Berlin through education and promotion. Dretske urged the group or someone ought to take an active role in Business Retention and Expansion efforts, to make sure the players are at the table. David Stone discussed how in his day to day vocation, there is a great value in a clear and understood vision statement. This should outline ambitions exceeding the current capacity of an organization but still charting goals to aim to achieve and the means to possibly do that. Without some sort of strategic planning, burnout will ensue as energy cannot be channeled into chaos. Dr. Durtschi agreed and added a group that can achieve the old mission statement needs to encourage institutions to pull together, and brought to attention the School District's own strategic planning initiatives. Stone stated he would draft the vision statement if he could get some historic chamber and Community Team documents, to better understand the context. Ludolph stated he would provide everything on hand in his office. Bays Chimed in about how there had been a youth coalition developed to help coordinate youth-oriented community group activities. Dretske and Durtschi commented how the goal should not be to reassemble failed institutions but build something that understands where those ones stumbled and instead tread in a position of strengths. Durtschi informed the group that Jefferson WI could serve as a case study for what structure to institute.

ABC

Sue off on Vacation

Continuing the 3rd of July Preparation, Musical Guests, and Volunteer Recruitment as presented in January.

Advocap:

Emailed ongoing grappling with Homelessness issue and housing scarcity in Berlin.

BASD:

Durtschi discussed the referendum questions, spring break, staffing, and the 'post-Covid' uptick in participation in activities that were down the last couple of years.

Banks and other Financial Institutions:

David Stone of Edward Jones Presented an informal discussion on current market conditions and urged anyone paying attention to current trends to think long term and to not fear investment when the market is down.

Library: Chris Kalupa shared the newsletter, by email, available on their website.

Library:

Facebook updates: Quilt show regional

120th year anniversary- celebration in April on national library week

1903 library built

Historic Society- Aging City- Digitization

Open Houses scheduled January through may

1st Saturday to website city

Ghost walk hopeful to have two years' worth of enthusiasm 14th ish of October with theme from last year

BCDC:

Ludolph announced the Economic Development Assistant had been selected and he was excited to see what all comes to fruition. There are substantial funds available for below market-rate commercial lending and gap financing.

Downtown:

Ludolph stated there would be some discussions of some up and coming businesses at the next meeting.

Fortifi:

Moen discussed the status of the former Bug Radio Station building. Update Next Month- Bosquez Chiropractic going into the building with opening date TBD.

City:

Dretske discussed the referendum question, parking, and NBP housing initiatives.

County:

Dretske discussed the Budget put together, an effort to cut taxes and implement HSA to staff, time off, flex time, and informed the group about the new county Administrator and Counsel.

Parks and Recreation:

Bays updated the group about the fee increases for campgrounds and shelter houses and discussed the large events had been booked for the park facilities.

Senior Center:

Bays discussed the setbacks in rebranding efforts, the county support for ADRC- Meals on wheels and hopes the new van arrives by the end of summer.

GLCVB:

I updated the current initiatives of Social Media to the group.

Any others:

Someone brought up there would be Rockin Oldies. I added more information is on the City Website under events.