

BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL DECEMBER 6, 2010

Members present: Mr. Ron Ferris, Mr. Alan Kreitzer, Mr. Gary Lawrence, Mr. Wayne Stevenson, Ms. Georgianne Diener, Mr. Ted Ansel, and Mr. Wade Kelly

Board Liaison: Supervisor Nancy Konhaus Griffie

Attendees: Bill DeVore, Jeff Austin, Jim Hall and Kurt Hall

Chairman Ron Ferris called the meeting to order. There was a motion and approval of the November 1, 2010 BAC meeting minutes as written. The first item was the 2011 BAC Golf Outing. Jim Hall expressed his thanks and appreciation to the BAC for their efforts in 2010 on behalf of the Township's EMS units. Committee chairman Ted Ansel announced the agreed upon date for the 2011 outing of Friday, July 22 with a 1 PM shotgun start. Kurt Hall reported that the New Kingstown Fire Co. may again host their 10th annual golf tournament in 2011. To prevent the two groups from soliciting sponsorships from the same entities, Kurt will furnish a list of their sponsors to the BAC.

Other topics regarding the golf outing included a discussion by Jeff Austin on the possibility of sponsorship for the logo golf balls. The displaying of advertising posters at various locations including the EMS facilities was discussed. Ron Ferris said that he would look into recording golf outing finances on an Excel spread sheet. It was agreed that a first letter to 2010 sponsors should be mailed out in January and BAC members are to prepare a prospective sponsor list for the January BAC meeting. Kurt Hall asked that the EMS personnel be better informed as to what duties they were expected to perform on the day of the outing. Jim Hall agreed to be the liaison between the BAC and the EMS units and he will attend committee meetings.

The BAC website is now operational at www.sstbac.webs.com thanks to Patty Kuhn. Nancy Griffie reviewed and approved the new site. To have an exclusive site with no ads there is a ten dollar per month fee. Ron Ferris suggested that the board evaluate the site after determining how many "hits" are received.

There remains an open position on the BAC board. Nancy Griffie reminded members that the Township Supervisors appoint committee members in January. Mrs. Griffie also recommended the representative from Groff Tractor for the vacant seat. Any BAC board applicants will be asked to attend the February meeting of the BAC.

The Township Strategic Planning Committee will decide on ten questions for their questionnaire to businesses at their January meeting. A suggestion was to get the opinions of businesses that have recently completed new construction projects and ask them about Township rules and procedures as applied to new construction permits and processes.

In regards to the review of Land Development Bonding and Improvements, Ron Ferris suggested meeting with other similar townships to compare their procedures with those of Silver Spring Township in regards to bonding and inspections.

Wayne Stevenson expressed his opinion that the Township is still viewed as unfriendly toward the business community. He believes that current businesses are choosing not to expand operations in the Township and said that the ever increasing need for tax dollars for the Cumberland Valley School District makes it necessary to grow business within the Township. Ron Ferris used the example of civil engineers using a multiplier when doing work in the Township.

Supervisor Griffie pointed to changes that the supervisors have made and continue to make to improve the business climate in the Township. She also pointed out that the best way to implement change is to support candidates with similar beliefs and goals or to personally seek office. Ron Ferris suggested that the current six year term for supervisors be reduced.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.