



BOSS 2020 REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
3940 PENN AVENUE
SINKING SPRING, PA 19608
(T) 484-269-4902 (F) 610-678-5802
samloth@comcast.net
www.boss2020.org



SINKING SPRING
BOSS 2020 REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
SSB COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
SSB BUSINESS & COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2017

Call to Order

Charles Coleman (President) called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Charles Coleman (President-D), Bernie Campbell (VP-ED), Jim Adams (Berks IDA-ED), Joe Eways (Coldwell-Banker-ED), Brian Hoffa (Council Economic Chair-ED), Ken Pick (Berks Redevelopment Authority), Bob Ludgate (Ludgate Engineering) and Sam Loth (Community Development Services).

Note: Teams: ED-Economic, D-Design, P-Promotion.

Guests: Brian Szczawinski (Lower Heidelberg Resident), Robert Brodman (SSB Business Owner), Audree Mooney & Daughter (SSB Krick Avenue Resident) and Julianne Schieffer (Penn State Extension Service).

2017 BCA Work Plan 'Tree Tender' Training

- Brian Hoffa introduced Julianne Schieffer, Urban Forester at Penn State Extension, Collegetown. Brian explained that as part of the Business & Community Alliance 5-Year Strategic Work Plan, BOSS 2020 will host a regional Tree Tenders Class in Sinking Spring in September 2017.
- Brian referenced the research paper "Money DOES Grow on Trees" that documents six ways community trees improve economic conditions.
- The BCA 5-Year Strategic Work Plan G&O state:
 - > Partner to Establish Green Resources
 - > Host Regional Tree Tender Workshops
 - > Organize a Design & Public Space Team
 - > Plan Streetscape Enhancement Projects
 - > Establish a SSB Tree Commission
 - > Complete a Tree Locator Map of the Borough
 - > Designate SSB a 'PA TreeVitalize Community'
 - > Design & Construct two Gateways on Penn Avenue

- Julianne Schieffer explained that community grants will soon be available for planting and maintenance of public green spaces, street trees and other projects.
- The Tree Tender Program is affiliated with the U.S. Forest Service; communities require at least three (3) trained and certified "Tree Tenders" for grant eligibility.
- Julianne said the Extension Service will provide resources to organize, promote and implement a full one-day Tree Tender Class on a Saturday in September 2017. BOSS 2020 will host the event.

Resources

SS Area Historical Society Members
 St. John & Reformed Church Congregations
 SSB Recreation Commission Participants
 PA Open Tree Mapping Program
 Berks County Agricultural Center
 PA Tree Vitalize Program
 PA DCNR C2P2 Grant Program

Sinking Spring Crossroads Improvement Plan

Phase 2 & 3-1 Construction Timetable Update

- Chuck Coleman called for questions, comments or suggestions from attendees.
- Ms. Audree Moon, Krick Avenue property owner explained that her son will be entering his Senior Year at Wilson SD in September 2017. She is concerned about having to transfer him in the middle of his Senior year. What can she expect as to construction of Phases 2 & 3-1?
- Bob Ludgate responded that his educated guess is FY-2019 based on PennDOT's process and Borough Council's votes to proceed with financing.

Overall Construction Schedule for Phases 2 & 3-1

- Chuck Coleman asked Bob Ludgate to report on construction of Phase 2 (Penn/Columbia/Cacoosing Intersection) and Phase 3-1 (Razing of Krick Avenue properties and construction of the New Columbia Extension intersection and first several hundred yards of the roadway).
- Bob said that he met with Chris Cutrow, PennDOT Engineer to firm up the construction of Phases 2 and 3-1 which are now being viewed as a combination project.
- The Phase 2 intersection Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) will be approved and the project will be placed out to 'Bid' this year. Construction of the intersection and north/south approach roads will occur in the summer and fall of 2018. Two properties at the current Columbia/Krick Avenues intersection need to be acquired for that construction.
- Phase 3-1 'curb cuts' for the New Columbia Extension will be constructed simultaneously and will not affect other properties.
- In the spring of 2019, construction of the first several hundred yards of the New Columbia Extension road will be built. The remainder of properties along Krick Avenue need to be acquired for that construction.

- Ken Pick asked if this construction schedule will be on the Agenda for the Borough Council Workshop meeting on May 24th?
- Brian Hoffa replied that the issue will most likely be addressed at the June 1st Borough Council meeting.
- This schedule assumes PennDOT approvals and Borough Council's agreeing to acquire the remaining Krick Avenue properties for clearing of the new roadway.
- Bob said that PennDOT has agreed to treat Phase 3-1 as a local construction and management project which will simplify and speed up the entire process.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- **Motion by Brian Hoffa** to approve the Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2017.
Second by Bernie Campbell. Motioned passed.

Treasurer's Report

- Lisa Gantner was absent. The report is tabled for approval until the June 15th BOSS meeting. Ms. Gantner said in a message to Sam Loth that the BOSS Balance in the General Fund is \$3,864.38 as of this date.
- Lucille Freeman of Rieck's Printing said that \$2,650 worth of advertising has been sold to date on the Round 3 Restaurant Placemat fundraiser.
- The BOSS Committee will need to provide a "Centerpiece" for the Placemat by June 14th. Sam will send members some options to decide on.

Committee-of-the-Whole

Joint Comprehensive Plan Update Committee

West Reading, Wyomissing, Spring Township, Sinking Spring

- Earlier this month, Chuck Coleman distributed various documents generated by the Joint Committee to BOSS Members by e-Mail.
- Chuck reported that demographic data being collected by the Joint Committee can be useful to SSB when considering youth facilities improvements.
- Sam Loth asked whether the BOSS Committee could submit documents and studies that have been completed over time that would be cogent to the Joint Committee's update work?
- Chuck responded that BOSS could do that. Sam will review what might be appropriate for the Joint Committee and report to BOSS at its June 2017 meeting.

Sinking Spring Borough Council - Project Financial Analysis

- BOSS completed the groundwork for a Financial Study on behalf of the Borough Council in April. The Albright College Center for Excellence in Local Governments can produce a Financial Analysis that includes interactive tools to assist the Council when planning for new budgets or contemplating costs and outcomes of projects. This will include the BOSS Crossroads Improvement Plan.

- Brian Hoffa brought the proposal to Borough Council for approval to proceed at the May 4th meeting. Council approved the project for \$75,000 that utilizes funding from the "Early Intervention Program" at the Governor's Center for Support with match funding from the County Redevelopment Authority CDBG Program.
- Paul Janssen, Director at Albright will apply for the funding in July 2017. He is currently assembling support from Senator Argall and others.
- Brian asked Sam Loth to send Paul the SSB New Town Center Market Study. Brian said further that the Borough needs bound copies of the Market Study for distribution to the public.
- The Committee asked Sam to write and post a story on the Market Study for the boss2020.org website.
- The Committee also would like the Joint Comprehensive Plan Committee to have copies of the Market Study.
- There are high-resolution map drawings of the New Town Center on the BCTV website. Sam should include those in the boss website and distribution.

Old Business

Mountain Home Road Refineries Meeting with BOSS

- Bob Ludgate contacted Craig Lutz in Senator Argall's office to assist in scheduling a meeting with 'Executive Level' representatives of Sunoco Logistics and several other energy producing companies located in the Mountain Home Road Refinery Complex.

New Business

- Sam Loth will follow up with US Congressman Lloyd Smucker based on his letter to the Borough inviting input.
- Chuck Coleman said that the BOSS Committee needs to actively recruit new individuals to attend and participate in these monthly meetings.
- Sam reported that the Combined Facade/Public Improvements Grant contract totaling \$275,000 has been extended through June 30, 2018 and that \$150,000 of those funds have successfully been approved as a change order from sidewalk widening in the 3900 Block of Penn Avenue to Phase 2 construction. This should provide enough time for construction of new sidewalks and curbing in the Phase 2 approach roads.
- BOSS 2020 Filed its Form 990-N Postcard with the IRS fro FY-2016 on May 10, 2017.

Adjourn

Motion by Brian Hoffa to adjourn at 8:30 PM. Second by Chuck Coleman.

Motion passed.

*Next Meeting: Thursday, June 15, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Borough Council Chambers*