



Fredericktown Community Development Foundation, Monthly Meeting – Minutes for Thursday, July 7, 2016, 7:30 a.m., Fredericktown Local Schools Board Room.

Trustees in attendance were: Matthew Crispin, Jeffrey Harris, James Hobson and Joan Stout.

The monthly meeting was called to order at 7:35 a.m.

Mr. Hobson welcomed those guests in attendance, and allowed Rick Carfagna to introduce himself. Mr. Carfagna is a Genoa Township Trustee, and he's running as the Republican nominee for the open Ohio House of Representatives seat for the 68th District, which includes all of Knox County.

Mr. Hobson opened the floor for a motion to approve the minutes of the Foundation's Monthly Meeting of June 2, 2016. Chief Roger Brown moved to approve the minutes and Chief Rick Lanuzza seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hobson turned the floor over to the attendees for community resource updates,

Rep. Margaret Ann Ruhl noted the Ohio General Assembly was on recess and that a church tour of the area would include the United Methodist Church, to occur Sunday, July 10.

Mr. Crispin noted that pre-school and full-day kindergarten was coming to Fredericktown Local Schools. The district has 85 enrollees in the program, and it needs to hire an additional teaching professional. The school board room, in which FCDF meetings occur, will remain available to community use; the pre-school will make use of other space in the district offices. Mr. Snell asked if the pre-school playground would be asphalt. Mr. Crispin responded the playground would fit with State specifications, to include both mulch and concrete. He further noted his thanks to both chiefs for their help in completing emergency plans for the Fredericktown Local Schools buildings, which had not been modified since 2007.

Mr. Snell noted the Village is looking to purchase a used vacuum truck to clean sanitary sewer and storm water lines. He noted the Village has not done as good a job as it should in maintaining its storm-water infrastructure; Ohio EPA has many requirements that need to be met. They are looking at a \$30,000, 26-year-old truck with 800 gallon capacity. Prior to this truck, the Village has had difficulty unclogging its own sewer lines, often using the Village of Butler, and Knox County and the City of Mount Vernon resources to perform work.

Mr. Snell continued, noting the bike trail project was put out to bid, with responses to be opened July 22. The Village received 100 percent funding for the \$165,000 project from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Further, the Village's \$177,000 repaving work in the downtown area was awarded to Kokosing Construction Co. Prior to the Tomato Show on September 7, the catch basins will be replaced in the area; after the Tomato Show, the paving work will occur.

Chief Lanuzza noted the Community Day was a great success, with \$1,600 raised for Fredericktown. The EMS squad went on 85 runs in June, which was a busy month.

Chief Brown stated that 153 calls for service were made in June, with eight arrests made. He sent letters to downtown businesses to make them aware of parking resources, as there are three Village-owned parking lots in the area. Chief Brown noted the National Night Out event would occur August 2, from 6 – 10pm, comprising South Main Street, East Sandusky Street and the Village Square; sponsors include UMD, Kokosing Construction Co., and Fredericktown Chevrolet. Chief Brown asked for attendees to provide him the email addresses of Village businesses so he could more easily communicate.

Mr. Hobson asked if a new Neighborhood Watch meeting was scheduled. Chief Brown noted it will occur on July 16, with Knox County EMA Director, Mark Maxwell, to speak. These events are better attended when free food is provided, which will be the case at the July meeting.

Carol Grubaugh was in Alaska as part of the Knox County Chamber's trip. In her place, Tina Cockrell advised attendees the chamber's documentary, "Uncommon Brilliance," would be shown on August 5, at First-Friday, in Mount Vernon at the Memorial Theater, with an admission charge of \$5. Ms. Stout asked if any interns were in place at the Chamber to assist with FCDF invoice distribution. Ms. Cockrell noted no interns were available, but the Chamber could help.

Dan Humphrey stated the Morris Township Trustees had passed a zoning resolution to clarify regulations within their jurisdiction. Mr. Harris asked to introduce Mr. Humphrey to the new owners of the Mount Vernon Academy boarding school campus, who are in need of rezoning to make use of their properties.

Mr. Hobson asked if the attendees wanted FCDF meetings to move to different times. He noted that retail businesses may better attend meetings in the evenings. Mr. Wagner noted that evening meetings had been plagued by low turnout. Paul Mayville noted that some meetings could be scheduled in the evening – either on a quarterly or biannual basis. He suggested it would be interesting to see who shows up at those meetings differently than the current morning sessions.

Mr. Mayville continued, noting the upcoming After Hours at First-Knox was scheduled to occur from 5:15 – 6:30pm on Wednesday, July 13. He would have light refreshments, show attendees the branch's recent remodeling and perhaps show the downtown revitalization planning effort – the Neighborhood Design Center engagement letter.

Mr. Harris asked if the Chamber could assist Paul Mayville in marketing the upcoming Business After Hours in Fredericktown at the First-Knox Bank branch. Ms. Cockrell responded, yes.

Mr. Harris gave updates on the Foundation's sister organization, the Area Development Foundation. First, the Fredericktown community is only one of 20 sites in Ohio chosen for inclusion in the SiteOhio certification process. The Burgett family property on Kokosing Parkway will be certified as "development ready" and aggressively marketed by the State for new industrial end users to develop there. Second, Mr. Harris met with the new owners of the Mount Vernon Academy boarding school campus. And he announced the FCDF was successful in obtaining its grant from the US Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Hobson then read into the minutes a copy of the resolution, attached here, that authorizes the officers of the Foundation to sign the Neighborhood Design Center engagement letter, now that funding from the US Department of Agriculture had been obtained. Mr. Wagner moved to adopt the resolution and Chief Lanuzza seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hobson noted he believes business incubation is important to the county, and he will be working with Mr. Harris in the effort now underway to establish such resources in the area. Mr. Harris then advised attendees of the existence of the new makerspace in downtown Mount Vernon, the Knox Labs space.

Mr. Hobson stated that he was aware of rumors circulating of a petition drive to create a community center. He knew of the effort in 2003 to raise money for such a center, and is aware that around \$500,000 in funds remain on account at the Community Foundation of Mount Vernon and Knox County. He asked if collaboration could occur among the petition seekers and FCDF. Mr. Humphrey recalled the petition committee was casual, having been loosely formed several years ago. Several attendees recalled such a community center would include an indoor pool; perhaps such a resource could attract new residents? Mr. Hobson asked if the funds available could be re-deployed to other needs within Fredericktown, such as downtown revitalization. Mr. Snell remarked that when he lived in Mason, near Cincinnati, the community center in that city was losing around \$750,000/year from operations. He believes such a center would be financial disaster to the Village, as they are expensive to build and operate.

Mr. Crispin noted the old high school, in which the FCDF meetings occur, could serve such a community center purpose. Mr. Wagner recalled that option was discussed years ago, and that a pool would be a money loser to the community.

Mr. Hobson proposed the FCDF's annual meeting to occur in November of each year. The organization's fiscal year is calendar-based and this timing would allow new officers to be elected prior to their term beginning in January. This year, the annual meeting would occur on November 3, and the FCDF would forego holding a December meeting. Chief Lanuzza moved to adopt this schedule and Mr. Wagner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hobson asked for Officers' reports. Ms. Stout provided the attendees with two separate reports showing June financial activity for the Foundation; one report for the Foundation as a whole, and the other showing the Tourism Committee's activity. The only financial activity was incurring the annual Directors & Officers Insurance premium and renewing the Foundation's post office box. Mr. Hobson asked if dues would change; Ms. Stout responded they will remain

unchanged in this year's invoices. Mr. Wagner moved to accept the financial reports as presented and Chief Lanuzza seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Judy Divelbiss presented a Tourism Committee report, noting the Fredericktown quilt would be raffled at the Christmas Walk in December. She stated having spoken to an attorney regarding the split-off of the Tourism Committee; she was advised to remain part of the Foundation. The attorney further noted the Foundation should maintain event insurance for the annual quilt show; Mr. Hobson asked that the current policy be checked for such coverage. Ms. Divelbiss then asked for feedback regarding the quilt's new Fredericktown logo, which may include a statement that *All roads lead to Fredericktown*. Mr. Snell asked that the new logo align with the patches used by Chief Brown's officers.

Mr. Crispin asked if the Village could obtain a State Historical Marker to commemorate its point of origination for the FFA Jacket. Mr. Wagner expressed support for such an effort.

[Author's note: I had to leave by 8:40am for meetings in Mount Vernon; the meeting continued without me.]

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffry Harris
Secretary

FREDERICKTOWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
CORPORATE RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CENTER ENGAGEMENT

RESOLVED, that the Foundation approves the July 5, 2016 proposal by The Neighborhood Design Center to conduct a downtown conceptual block visioning study for the Village of Fredericktown's central business district, at a cost to the Foundation of \$10,000;

RESOLVED, that the Foundation hereby directs any and all proceeds from the US Department of Agriculture's Rural Business Development Grant award to offset the costs of The Neighborhood Design Center's downtown study;

RESOLVED, that the Trustees and Officers are hereby authorized to take whatever steps necessary, including signing on behalf of the Foundation any contracts or forms related to the downtown study and the use of the Rural Business Development grant; and

RESOLVED, that the Trustees are hereby authorized and directed to certify to any interested party that this resolution has been duly adopted, is in full force and effect, and is in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation and Code of Regulations of the Foundation.