

MINUTES
MARCH 8, 2005 BOARD MEETING

The March 8, 2005 Enterprise Zone Corp. of Braddock (EZCB) Board Meeting was opened at 7:43 a.m. by EZCB President William J. Pfoff.

I. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

William J. Pfoff, President
Mayor Pauline Abdullah, Vice President
Michael Aldrich
James Canavan
Robert M. Grom
Lucille Rago
James Reichert
Matthew Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Lisa Silberman, Secretary
Nancy Graham, Treasurer
Michael Tobias

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Evelyn Benzo

OTHERS ATTENDING

Bill Roland, Office of Senator Sean Logan
Charles H. Starrett III

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2005 BOARD MEETING AND ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Motion by Mayor Abdullah, second by Mr. Reichert to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2005 EZCB Board Meeting and the Annual Membership Meeting, unanimously approved.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

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| FR: R. Grom, Grandview Chamber Image & Beautification Comm. | RE: Meeting Minutes |
| FR: K. Osman & V. Vargo, Tri Boro Development Forum | RE: Mon Valley Passport |
| FR: R. Grom, Tri Boro Development Forum | RE: Meeting Minutes |
| FR: Pennsylvania Economic Development Association | RE: Spring Conference |
| FR: R. Gaydos, Allegheny County | RE: Resignation from County |
| FR: PA Turnpike Commission | RE: Newsletter |
| FR: SMC Business Councils | RE: Business Awards Luncheon |
| FR: SMC Business Councils | RE: Golf Outing Schedule |
| FR: SMC Business Councils | RE: DynamicBusiness Magazine |
| FR: W. Zurlo, C.P.A. | RE: Proposal-Form 990 Preparation |
| FR: Steel Industry Heritage Corporation | RE: Newsletter |
| TO: EZCB Members | RE: Annual Dues Reminders |
| TO: The Valley Mirror | RE: EZCB News Release |
| TO: EZCB Board Members | RE: Board Meeting Notice |
| TO: EZCB Loan Committee | RE: A.J.Silberman Loan Request |

IV. ACCOUNT BALANCES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Starrett reviewed the account balances and financial reports.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- **President's Report:** Mr. Pfoff discussed the Mon/Fayette Expressway design process. The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is assembling design teams with representatives from the Boroughs and the area. Mr. Pfoff suggested that the EZCB be represented on the design team. Mr. Pfoff congratulated Mr. Grom on today's 4 Kids event and the grant announcement to be conveyed by Governor Rendell today. Mr. Grom said a \$1 million endowment has been established for the Learning Center. There was further discussion regarding the Mon/Fayette Expressway planning process.

Mr. Grom discussed transportation planning issues and funding for public transit.

Mr. Grom said the Tri Boro Development Forum has recommended the Swissvale Rotary Club proceed with the trash receptacle project. Apparently State funds will now be forthcoming. Draft mock-ups of proposed welcome signs for the communities were reviewed. The Forum would like to proceed with this. Mr. Starrett said the EZCB Image and Beautification funds are eligible to support this endeavor. Mr. Grom said he helped to enlist the support of Suzann Miriello for artist contributions and U.S. Steel for supply contributions.

- **Enterprise Zone Coordinator's Report:** Mr. Starrett said regarding membership renewals, we continue to collect dues and send notices to those who haven't renewed. He said we sent a news release to The Valley Mirror about the Executive Officers elected for 2005. He said he attended the Tri Boro Development Forum and Image & Beautification meetings. The Image & Beautification Committee is planning the Rankin Bridge Planting for May 20th and 21st.

Mr. Starrett said the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association Conference is to be held in Pittsburgh April 4th – 6th. He will attend the Conference.

- **Update on Status of Business Loan Program, Loan Portfolio Monitoring Report:** The report was distributed with the agenda packet. All loan recipients are current with payments.
- **Loan Committee Report:** A written report was distributed regarding the February 23rd Loan Committee meeting. A proposal was reviewed for a loan from the A.J. Silberman & Company. The Loan Committee recommends approval of a loan. This is to be considered under New Business.

- **Website Development:** Mr. Starrett reviewed the status of the EZCB's website. Various sections are completed and on the site. Additional information is being added.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- **Authorize Enterprise Zone Loan to A.J. Silberman & Company:** The written report from the Loan Committee was reviewed and discussed. The Committee recommends a \$90,000 loan at an interest rate of 3% for a seven (7) year term to be matched with a loan from Citizens Bank.

Mr. Canavan said we need to determine the value of our collateral and mortgage position. He suggested we also have a cross-default provision with the Citizens Bank commitment so if there is a default with the bank they will automatically be in default with the EZCB.

The recommendation for the loan is contingent upon receiving an updated and revised Citizens Bank commitment letter and an audited financial statement. Mr. Canavan said this is a sound company with adequate cash flow. Motion by Mr. Reichert, second by Mr. Thomas to authorize an Enterprise Zone loan to the A.J. Silberman & Company in the amount of \$90,000 at a 3% interest rate for a seven (7) year term, unanimously approved.

Mr. Aldrich discussed the philosophy of the loan program and cautioned that we continue to serve the "little guys". Mr. Starrett reviewed the history of the loan program and the requirements for receiving a loan commitment.

- **Authorize Federal Form 990 Filing With The I.R.S. by William E. Zurlo, C.P.A.:** Mr. Starrett reviewed the proposal received from William E. Zurlo, C.P.A. Motion by Mayor Abdullah, second by Mr. Reichert to authorize Federal Form 990 Filing with the I.R.S. by William E. Zurlo, C.P.A. for \$775; unanimously approved.
- **Approval for Payment:** Motion by Mr. Aldrich, second by Mr. Thomas to approve payment of voucher 255 from the EZCB Revolving Loan Fund Account; voucher 23 from the Image & Beautification Account; and vouchers 382, 383, 384, 385, 386 and 387 from the EZCB Membership Account; unanimously approved.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT/DISCUSSION

- **Allegheny County's Redevelopment Plans:** Mr. Starrett said he discussed the Braddock Redevelopment and Carrie Furnace situations with Allegheny County Department of Economic Development representatives. The Site Engineering is underway for the Braddock Redevelopment with Mackin Engineering. All vacant property is under Allegheny County's control. They've made offers on all occupied properties. Franjo Construction is one of the firms looking to locate at the site, according to Allegheny County.

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Regarding Carrie Furnace, negotiations continue and Allegheny County and its attorneys and consultants are doing all of their “due diligence” activities.

- **Tri Boro Development Forum Update:** Ms. Benzo said the next Image and Beautification and Forum meetings are to be held on Wednesday, March 16th. She also discussed plans for the Bridge Planting Days scheduled for May 20th and 21st.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

- The next EZCB Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at 7:30 a.m. in the A-Level Conference Room at UPMC Braddock

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Reichert, second by Mr. Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 a.m., unanimously approved.