

MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2005 BOARD MEETING

The June 14, 2005 Enterprise Zone Corp. of Braddock (EZCB) Board Meeting was opened at 7:38 a.m. by EZCB President William J. Pfoff.

I. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

William J. Pfoff, President
Mayor Pauline Abdullah, Vice President
Nancy Graham, Treasurer
Michael J. Aldrich
Michael Tobias
Lucille Rago
Matthew Thomas

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Lisa Silberman, Secretary
James E. Canavan
Robert M. Grom
James Reichert

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Evelyn Benzo
Gerald Jackson
Mary K. Mehok

OTHERS ATTENDING

Charles H. Starrett III

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Thomas, second by Mayor Abdullah to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2005 EZCB Board Meeting, unanimously approved.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

FR: Isaac Bunn	RE: Request for Grant
FR: Steel Industry Heritage Corp.	RE: Newsletter
FR: CMU Cornerstones	RE: 2005 Symposium
FR: Olszak Management Consulting, Inc.	RE: D.A.T. Survey
FR: SMC Business Councils	RE: Golf Outing
FR: SMC Business Councils	RE: 2 Dynamic Business Magazines
FR: J. Moyer, Office of Solicitor S. Kennedy	RE: Silberman Loan
FR: B. Grom, Grandview Image & Beautification Committee	RE: Meeting Minutes
FR: B. Grom, Tri Boro Development Forum	RE: Meeting Minutes
FR: PA Turnpike Commission	RE: New Office Announcement
FR: Good Shepherd Parish	RE: Thanks for Booth Sponsorship
FR: Mon Valley Initiative	RE: New Date for Groundbreaking
FR: SMC Business Councils	RE: Pirate Tickets
FR: J. Grystar, Turtle Creek MH/MR	RE: Dinner
FR: J. Ellen Welsh, V.P. Development, Heritage Health Foundation	RE: Thanks for Contribution for Clean Up
FR: G. Williams, Langholz-Wilson & Associates, Inc.	RE: 108 Talbot Avenue, Braddock
FR: Mon Valley Initiative	RE: Small Business Roundtable
TO: B. Grom, Heritage Health Foundation	RE: Brownfields Job Training Grants
TO: L. Adams, Allegheny Insurance Agency, Inc.	RE: Honesty Bond Ins. Application
TO: N. Graham, Citizens Bank	RE: Grant Request
TO: J. Ellen Welsh, Vice President, Development, HHF	RE: Contribution for Clean Up
TO: L. Silberman, A.J. Silberman & Company	RE: Loan Coupon Repayment Book
TO: EZCB Board Members	RE: Board Meeting Notice

IV. ACCOUNT BALANCES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Starrett reviewed the account balances and financial reports, which were distributed with the agenda packet. He noted that \$3,000 was transferred from the Membership 9-Month Certificate of Deposit at Citizens Bank to the Membership Checking Account at Sky Bank. The remaining balance of \$5,145.36 was deposited into a Membership 6-Month Certificate of Deposit at Citizens Bank.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- **President's Report:** Mr. Pfoff thanked Mayor Abdullah for chairing the last Board Meeting. He discussed the recent Design Advisory Team meetings regarding the Mon/Fayette Expressway. Mr. Pfoff said yesterday was a great day for the area with the announcement that Allegheny County is acquiring the former Carrie Furnace property. It was noted in the Post Gazette that Allegheny County Department of Economic Development Director Dennis Davin said it will take 12 to 18 months for environmental cleanup to take place. Mr. Starrett discussed the process but reported that most of the site has been remediated by Park Corp. The furnaces are where most issues remain.

Mr. Pfoff said he noted that there's a "For Sale" sign on the old Revco Building. Mr. Thomas said Oliver Ervin is to move in with a furniture store.

Mr. Pfoff said Field Environmental on Miller Avenue in Rankin is to move to Penn Avenue in Pittsburgh. He said that if anyone knew of a company interested in an 8-10,000 sq. ft. building and another warehouse building on Chartiers they may contact Field Environmental or him.

A letter from Isaac Bunn was discussed. It was noted that other than Rep. Paul Costa's recent phone call regarding Mr. Bunn, the EZCB had not dealt with him. Mr. Thomas said Mr. Bunn spoke to many others about funding. Mr. Pfoff said Mr. Bunn is requesting approximately \$12,000 to put on an entertainment event. Ms. Benzo said the Carnegie Library had reserved time for Mr. Bunn's event but it's been postponed.

- **Enterprise Zone Coordinator's Report:** Mr. Starrett reported that the 2004 I.R.S. Form 990 is being prepared by C.P.A. Bill Zurlo. He said we submitted a grant application to Citizens Bank for funds for website development. He said we completed an application for bonding insurance renewal. Mr. Starrett said he attended the Sustainable Pittsburgh Conference May 20th and reported on the conference.

Mr. Starrett said we responded to a request from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for a job creation report on the active Enterprise Zone loans for the period 7/1/2004 – 12/31/2004. We reported the creation of 32 jobs for that reporting period.

Mr. Starrett said he had provided information on Brownfields Job Training Grants to Bob Grom since he's on the Workforce Investment Board. He said we're assisting Becky Labetta of the Rankin Christian Center, who is planning an Open House for August. We're providing information on local elected officials, EZCB members, etc. for their invitation list.

Mr. Starrett said he also provided information to a reporter for an article in the Pittsburgh City Paper regarding the Mon/Fayette Expressway.

Mr. Starrett discussed the acquisition of the Carrie Furnace Site by Allegheny County and the event held Monday, June 13th. We provided names of EZCB Board Members, Carrie Furnace/Mon Riverfront Steering Committee members, local officials, etc. to the County for them to invite to the event.

Mr. Starrett said he's learned that Allegheny County was holding meetings with local officials and others regarding community and economic development but the EZCB has not been included. Mr. Thomas said the County wants to have a meeting every three months with local representatives. He said Eric Miller of Allegheny County has been convening the meetings. Mr. Pfoff said we need to tell Allegheny County to work with us in a coordinated manner. This goes back to what we've talked about previously at the Tri Boro Development Forum and the Carrie Furnace/Mon Riverfront Steering Committee.

Mr. Starrett reported on the meetings of the Grandview Chamber Image & Beautification Committee and Tri Boro Development Forum meetings he attended on May 18th. He said the trash cans for the Trash Can Project have been ordered as the State funding is imminent. At the Image and Beautification meeting, Bob Grom updated on the Welcome Signs. He distributed renderings of proposed signs. He has been coordinating the design with New Guild Studios. It was agreed to try to start with North Braddock's sign to coincide with the French and Indian War Site.

Mr. Starrett noted that the Rankin Bridge Planting and community clean up was held May 20th and 21st, and the EZCB assisted with a \$500 grant.

Mr. Starrett reported on the Design Advisory Team (DAT). He said he completed a survey for the DAT. He said two meetings have been held since the last EZCB meeting. The discussions have focused on how to reduce the amount of property required for the Sixth Street interchange, preserve the 404 Braddock Avenue Building and the larger businesses near Rankin Bridge. Also, at the meetings, local officials encouraged creating development opportunities being presented by the Mon/Fayette Expressway.

The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission will hold an Open House on Wednesday, June 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., with a Press Conference at 10:00 a.m. at 1026 Duquesne Boulevard (next to Kennywood) in Duquesne, to open the PA Route 51 to I376 Mon/Fayette Expressway Project Office in Duquesne.

- **Update on Status of Business Loan Program, Loan Portfolio Monitoring Report:** Mr. Starrett said all loan recipients have made the June loan payments, all are current with payments.
- **Business Development/Technical Assistance Report:** Mr. Starrett said McClure-Johnston was considering a state tax credit application for this State Fiscal Year, 6/30/04-6/30/05, but were not able to complete before June 30th. They're considering a project for this Fall. Mr. Starrett said we were contacted by Glenn L. Williams of Langholz-Wilson & Associates, Inc. They are a commercial real estate services company who are marketing the property at 108 Talbot Avenue – the EPI property. Also, Franjo Construction has talked to Allegheny County and us about County development property for their business.

- **Loan Committee Report:** No report.
- **Website Development:** Mr. Starrett said we're continuing to provide information to the Cosgroves. The website is currently on consultant Bluewhale Studios server, temporarily, while it is being completed. The address is: <http://clients.bluewhalestudios.com/ezcbweb2/>. Mr. Starrett said we've talked with Gray Welding, Sciarretti Asphalt Paving Co., and Dipcraft Manufacturing about featuring their businesses. Other businesses to be featured on the site include A.J. Silberman & Co., Recovery Technologies Group, Sullivan Plumbing, Grandview Golf Club, U.S. Steel and BOC Gases. Also, Mr. Starrett said he and Bob Grom are scheduled to take photographs of businesses for the website.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- **Authorize EZCB Tee Sign for Braddock Rotary Club Golf Outing:** Mr. Starrett read the request from the Braddock Rotary Club for tee sign sponsorship for the Rotary Golf Outing. Motion by Mr. Aldrich, second by Mr. Thomas to authorize an EZCB tee sign sponsorship for the Braddock Rotary Club Golf Outing in the amount of \$100 from the Image and Beautification Account, unanimously approved.
- **Approval for Payment:** Motion by Mr. Aldrich, second by Mayor Abdullah to pay vouchers 259 and 260 from the EZCB Revolving Loan Fund Account; vouchers 28, 29, 30 and 31 from the EZCB Image & Beautification Account; and vouchers 397, 398, 399 and 400 from the EZCB Membership Account; unanimously approved.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT/DISCUSSION

- **The Braddock Rotary Club Golf Outing** will be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at Grand View Golf Club.
- **Allegheny County's Redevelopment Plans:** This was previously discussed.
- **Tri Boro Development Forum Update:** Ms. Benzo reported that there are meetings tomorrow, June 15th and the new focus is to see that community projects get completed like plantings and cleanup and the trash receptacle project and to have the Forum act as a "hub" of information.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

- The next EZCB Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at 7:30 a.m. **at the Plaza Restaurant in Forest Hills**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Abdullah, second by Mr. Tobias to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 a.m., unanimously approved.