



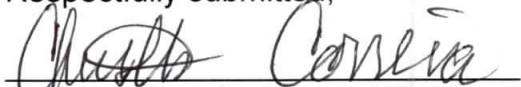
**Economic Development Committee
January 10, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
Bridgeville Town Hall & Zoom
Minutes**

- I. **Attending**, Zoom Meeting: Richard Grinnell, Sue Grenier, James Speegle, Jane Houtman, New possible recruits: Carol Jones, Mike Szczechura, Sharon, and Cindy.
Absent: Veronique Link, Christine Correia
Also Attending: Bruce Smith, Bethany DeBussy (Zoom), Ashley Walls (Zoom)
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from December 13, 2021, were approved.
- III. **EDC Financials:** None. Tabled till next meeting.
- IV. **Old Business**
 - A. **Holiday Event Outcomes:** The parade turned out great. Bethany stated this was the largest parade we've had with 71 entries. The tree is part of the parade. Hopefully, we will get bands involved in the next parade(s). A great turnout of community watching. Possibly changing the day of the parade to Friday. Caroling had a great turnout this year. Talks of next year merging the caroling in the park with the tree lighting ceremony being on the same day.
 - B. **Letter to Business Owners:** Richard explains to possible new members what the Letter to Business Owners' purpose is. Richard stated Veronique was putting together the letter. Jim stated she worked on it some and was going to present it tonight but due to sickness couldn't. Richard mentioned since we have no letter to review at this time, we will table this for now.
- V. **New Business:** Review meeting notes between Jim and Karen from the high school. Jim explained it was a meeting he had with Karen who is the head of the Animal Husbandry program at the high school. At the previous meeting, we mentioned bringing in local farmers to the committee and using the farms as an attraction to Bridgeville. Karen is head of that program. The career programs at the high school have about 400 students and in the farm program, they raise cattle, and chickens and learn how to care for them. They are quite interested in doing something with us. Karen was very interested in doing a farm-to-table dinner event. Karen was very encouraging about a student joining or volunteering to be on the committee. Jim stated would this change or extend our focus from the Market/Main Street areas to bringing more people in associated with Bridgeville. He stated that the farming community has been somewhat neglected in terms of our programming. Karen is very enthusiastic about the possible relationship between the committee and the town.

VI. Current Projects: We have several and should figure out which to pursue, table, or get rid of. Sue mentioned the crosswalks and signal cabinets have been put on hold due to figuring out what to put on them. The banners are the same issue of deciding what to have as our identity of Bridgeville. Sue stated we are limited on time with the crosswalks with the street being still new. The budget's end of the year is coming up and we need time to get Commissioner's approval on projects for the first quarter. Bruce stated we need to use a good portion of our budget by June 2022 or we could get our budget cut. Jane mentioned starting simple for the crosswalks/cabinets like the Woodbridge Raiders and that our Town doesn't show school spirit like the other surrounding Towns. Bruce stated giving ourselves a deadline to get projects done. Richard said what drives the issue of decisions is due to lack of members. Bethany stated we need to tell the graphic designer what we want, that they won't pick and design for us. Decided first quarter to have designs for the crosswalks/cabinets brought to the Commissioners to approve. Bethany questioned if we are going to bring back Fabulous Fourth Fridays which we need to start planning in the spring. Jane suggested checking out other events in surrounding Towns and what vendors they attract to get ideas for spring/summer events. Recommended to Table till next time. Jane mentioned we need to revitalize the downtown. Bethany said what could we do with the old police station. Said it is a historic building and we do not want to tear it down. What ideas could we encourage to make our downtown interesting with the police station as something new? Museum, distillery, coffee shop, etc. Agreed to save the police station. Richard suggested we come up with ideas to do something with that building.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Correia, Transcriptionist