**SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF NETCONG BOROUGH, INC**

**NETCONG COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**August 22, 2024**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Fredericks at 6:31pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Those in attendance were Ryan Barsa, Michael Downing, Stephen Fredericks, Councilman Bob Hathaway, Michelle Ruocco, and Leigh Ann Von Hagen. Also, present Jennifer Meehan, Administrative Assistant.

President’s Report- President Fredericks that he met with the Morris County Chamber of Commerce regarding a program they have that can help businesses in the county. It could be $50 per business to join. This is in the preliminary stages.

Mr. Downing made a motion to approve the minutes of June 27, 2024, with a second from Mr. Barsa. This passed unanimously by a voice vote of all members present.

Mr. Downing reported that since the June meeting the NCP has not made any deposits. We have expenses this evening for the past two months totaling $5,133.34. This gives us a balance of $17,942.21 in the checking account. Ms. Von Hagen made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report with Councilman Hathaway seconding the motion. This was passed by all members in attendance.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee- nothing to report

Finance Committee- nothing to report.

Community Outreach Committee – Discussion took place about the Recreation Committee renaming their food truck event Netcong Day. Questions were asked about why Netcong Day? Since it doesn’t include the businesses and thus affects them. Councilman Hathaway stated that the event is being run by the Recreation Committee, Netcong Education Foundation, and the PTA. Suggestion was made that if the event will continue to be called Netcong Day that the executive committee meet with the Recreation Committee in the new year after both groups have their reorganizational meetings to discuss how the NCP can be involved.

Publishing Committee- nothing to report.

Property Enrichment- Councilman Hathaway reported that the new lamp posts when installed will have hardware for flags. Also, Councilman Hathaway suggested that the NCP wait until the downtown has its facelift before purchasing any Holiday Decorations or flags. It was suggested that we start looking at different companies ahead of time to vet them, so we are ready to proceed when the downtown is completed. A suggestion was to talk to borough Administrator, Ralph Blakeslee for this. Mrs. Meehan said she has started to collect information from different vendors already.

Bylaws and Legal Issues- Nominations will be coming up soon. If anyone knows anyone who might be interested to please let Mr. Downing or Chairman Fredericks know.

Economic Development-Councilman Hathaway reported on the following:

St. Michael’s Project (Mountain View)- Nothing new to report

Crown Walk- 50% full

Rock Solid (Koch Property)- Moving forward, final votes are forth coming

Allen Mansion- Demolition occurred and they are moving forward

Compaq- slow moving but, making progress

Shop Rite- Still moving forward but have hit some unexpected delays

Maple & 183 light – traffic study indicates light needed. Just trying to finalize details

The Borough was turned down for a Grant to secure the property to create a parking lot on Jenny Lind and Bank Street. Woodmont property wants more than what the property is worth. The trails project is on hold momentarily. We can have the trail go from the train station to the parks but, the boardwalk piece to connect Koclas from Arbolino park to DiRenzo has hit some red tape. The state says the Borough doesn’t own the Park so there is some research going on to find out who owns the land and trying to locate the deed.

Councilman Hathaway made a motion to approve the July and August 2024 Bill’s List with a second from Mr. Barsa. All trustees in attendance voted Yes to approve the Bill List for July and August and authorized that payments be released as soon as funds are available.

Old Business- nothing.

New Business- A trifold showing what the NCP is has been designed. Copies were passed around for more input. Chairman Fredericks, Councilman Nametko, Mrs. Ruocco, and Ms. Von Hagen have all contributed to this draft copy. Some suggestions were to have a QR Code on the trifold with a link to the NCP website. After some discussion Councilman Hathaway made ad motion to have the pamphlet sent to a graphic designer and have pamphlets printed not to exceed $500. There was a second from Mrs. Von Hagen and was approved unanimously by all in attendance.

President Fredericks also mentioned that the Arts Phase 2 project will be opening soon and there are Grants from $500 to $500K available. The Growing Stage will be applying and will need support from the NCP and the Borough, one of the initiatives is to bring people to Netcong. Katie Dempsey will be meeting with the Growing Stage about sustainability.

The next meeting will take place on September 26, 2024, at 6:30pm in the Netcong Borough Hall Council Chambers.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Hathaway at 7:25pm seconded by Mr. Barsa.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Meehan