

## RDC Meeting September 22, 2016

The September 22, 2016 meeting of the RDC was held at Beech Grove City Hall on Thursday at 7:11 pm (1911 hours). Those present included President Don Webb, Vice President Ron Mote, Secretary Cathy Chappell and member Mac Bellner. Members Tammy Storey and Jannis King were not present.

A motion was made by Mac Bellner to approve the minutes from the August 2016 meeting. Ron Mote seconded the minutes and they were approved.

The total of outstanding bills was \$50,731.95. This bill was for the RDC's portion of the paving of the Butler Avenue running north and south from the high school. Secretary Cathy Chappell made a motion to pay the bill and seconded by Ron Mote. The total also included some minor bills.

Mayor Dennis Buckley updated the RDC on what was going on in the community. He said they had just wrapped up Phase One of paving and they are getting ready to start Phase Two. The project is roughly ½ million dollars. It was funded by the state of Indiana.

Mayor Buckley felt like they top two stories of the Medical Office Building appears to be done and he feels like offices will start moving in soon. President Donald Webb talked briefly about the professional buildings across from the hospital on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The prospective owners are considering retail shops on the main floor and apartments above. The company interested seems excited that the city is putting in a greenway path. President Webb suspects when the older part of the hospital is demolished the homes nearby will increase in value.

Attorney Manny Herceg from Lewis & Kappes spoke next. He talked about the Churchman sidewalk project. Housing and Urban Development has to approve the property in front of the apartments in order to pour the sidewalks. Approval time is approximately 90 days.

Manny also mentioned the city and RDC should have some type of uniform application when organizations are seeking money from the RDC. It would allow clarification of what the money is needed for. He suggested a Saturday planning session. Cathy stated she had contacted the Southport RDC to see if we can get a copy of their request form. Cathy asked for an example of a

question that should be on the form. He responded by saying how many other organizations have been contacted to also ask for money. How long would this project take and how much money would be needed?

Mayor Buckley announced an Open House at the Community Center at 1pm on October 27, 2016. The city of Beech Grove received a HUD grant and the money was used at that facility for upgrades and refurbishing. The community is hoping to offer programs for at risk youths ages 3 to 17.

October 11, 2016 from 2pm to 6pm at the Hornet Park Center will be “Ask a lawyer” and it is a pro bono program. It allows citizens to talk to attorneys regarding legal issue they may be experiencing. Attorney Manny Hecceg will be in participating.

Mac Gilkerson, owner of Brown’s Garage got up to talk briefly about Next Stop Beech Grove. Paperwork had been turned in, the logo has been designed and the web site is being worked on. He reported a few businesses have recently made building improvements. Mac indicated this process would take two years regarding grant money. Secretary Cathy Chappell asked if any other monies had been collected since the August RDC meeting. The Board of Works has been approached about a donation and the Promoters Club has also donated. A \$750.00 donation has also been given from a sign company. Mac thought their total in the bank was around \$2500.00. Companies who donate their time and products are given credit as a donation.

Diana Hendricks, also from Next Stop Beech Grove was the next speaker. She passed out written information for the organization. The local businesses will be doing fundraising as opposed to donating money. The requests for grant money must be specific: the individual buildings must be listed specifically. Currently Next Stop Beech Grove is operating under the BG Chamber umbrella which is a 501C6 and the Next Stop BG has to be a 501C3. They are working on that now. The application has already been turned in. She also suggested how they would like a member or members of the RDC to be on a committee as a nonvoting member.

Diana talked about how working on this project makes the various businesses work together. And the people working together make a better community. She mentioned the various committees by name.

The number of grants and amounts of grant money will be changing soon. Diana asked what Next Stop Beech Grove needs to do in order to ask the RDC for a \$1000.00 donation. President Webb indicated the organization needs to speak to our attorney because we have to follow strict guidelines. Attorney Herceg advised Diana he wants to see the organization's by-laws. He also is concerned about a member of the RDC being on a committee.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 7pm, 1900 hours. Mac Bellner made a motion to adjourn. It was so moved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Secretary, Cathy Chappell