

# Warren County Economic Development Committee (WCEDC)

## Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2016

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Chair Schultheis called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM.

### **Roll Call:**

Present: Scott Anderson, Mitchell Jones, Andrea Kirchuk, John Kruk, Chris Maier, Stan Prater, Chair Betty Schultheis, Herman Shoemaker, Linda Stettler, Todd Tersigni, Freeholder Director Jason Sarnoski

### **Pledge of Allegiance:**

All present stood and recited the Pledge.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Mr. Tersigni made a motion, seconded Ms. Stettler, to approve the February May 12, 2016 minutes. All in favor.**

### **Welcome and Introductions:**

EDC members  
Members of the Public

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Consultant Coordination Report: Jason Sarnoski**

- Project will kick off with stakeholder interviews to be held on Thursday June 30 between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm. Each group will include members of the EDC, county employees and key members of the community with an interest/expertise in each area.
- The following groups will be represented at the meetings in the time slots indicated:
  - 8:00-9:00am – Tourism and Agriculture. Chris Maier and Mitch Jones, Art, Kenisha, and Cory.
  - 9:00-10:00am – Agriculture: Mitch Jones and Cory Tierney
  - 10:00-11:00am – Education and Workforce Investment: Eve Azar
  - 11:00am to 1:00pm – Break
  - 1:00-2:00pm – Business Finance, Bankers, Realtors: John Kruk, Scott Anderson, Todd Tersigni

- 2:00-3:00pm – BID, Chamber UEZ also to include non-profits: John Kruk, Andrea Kirchuk, Betty Schultheis, Todd Tersigni.
- 3:00-4:00pm – Transportation and Utilities: Jason Sarnoski, Stan Prater
- 4:00-5:00pm – Big Business and Employers: Jason Sarnoski
- 5:00-8:00pm – Developers and Builders: Herman Shoemaker
- Jason will provide a brief summary and list of questions to share with the invites stakeholders prior to the meeting.

**July 14<sup>th</sup> EDC Meeting Report: Betty Schultheis:**

- Plans for July 14, Meeting: Meeting will be held at the Votech at 7:30pm. The meeting will be approximately 1 hour in length and provide a summary of the comments collected from the municipalities. Betty will e-mail request for input for meeting ahead of time. Additional time will be provided after the close of the meeting to allow for networking.

**Grant Status Report: Cory Tierney**

- Still waiting to hear about the status of the Grant, probably won't hear until September.
- Preservation Day May 21<sup>st</sup>: Took place in Ramseyburg with 100-200 people in attendance. Next year the event will be held in the southern portion of the county.

**Tourism, Art Charlton:**

- National Geographic Nat Geo Tourism: Site was launched and several events were held in various locations, including Manhattan.
- Explore Warren website will launch next week.
- Farmers Fair coming up in July.

**AgTourism, Kenisha:**

- Farm Art Group from Wisconsin came to visit the county on May 25 & 26. They explained how the idea started and toured the county to decide on the most advantageous route. Looking for an Arts Heritage Partner for funding. Submitted a Grant application for this project through the state.
- Still working to refine the route to a manageable size.

**Old Business:**

Goals for 2016:

- Goals will be defined and flow from the stakeholder meetings.
- Creation of a Foundation is premature – Goals need to be established first.
- Public Policy subcommittee – Working on several different issues with legislation being presented.
- Route 31 Shuttle has started running. More information can be found at [31ride.com](http://31ride.com)

**Open Comments from the Public:**

Public attendees present: Elizabeth Griggs, Jay Cronce, Marc Pasquini, Sarah Brelvi, among others

## **Close Comments from the Public**

### **New Business:**

Ingersoll Rand Property in Phillipsburg will close June 15. Agreement with the town is in place to move the project forward. Todd Tersigni read a detailed statement.

### **Next Meeting:**

July 14, 2016 at 7:30 PM. At Warren County VoTech

### **Adjournment:**