

DRIVE, An Economic Development Council of Governments

Meeting Minutes for March 1, 2017

Attending: Board members Greg Cole, Lance Diehl, John DeFinnis, Trevor Finn, Harold Hurst, Teri MacBride, Susan McGarry, Al Neuner, David Soltz and Chris Young

The meeting was held at 114 Woodbine Lane, Suite 103, Danville and called to order by Chairman John DeFinnis at 8:05 AM. The chair welcomed everyone and recognized the guests in attendance: Karen Blackledge (Danville News & Daily Item), Ken Holdren (Montour County Commissioner) and Bob Snyder (private developer).

Minutes:

The minutes of February 1, 2017 were accepted without correction by motion of Harold and seconded by Matt.

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Reports:

Matt reviewed the Treasurer's and Budget Variance reports through February 28, 2017. The reports show \$208,089 in cash reserves.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Al and seconded by Lance. Motion carried.

Transition Volunteers' Report:

Greg reviewed the mail received and Susan described the email traffic including several site searches through Focus Central PA. Focus is convening an industrial development forum in June. All DRIVE members are invited and encouraged to attend. It was noted that the Columbia Alliance has had a good experience with a lead Focus provided.

John thanked the volunteers.

Old Business:

Matt asked that members respond to an email inquiring into their board affiliations with GDAIDC and Columbia Alliance for the auditor's purposes.

Trevor reported on cordial and frank discussions between the "Task Force" and BIDA in February, however formal collaboration is not going to happen in the near term. Timelines do not mesh because BIDA does not have staff identified and the BIDA board's formal support remains unclear. Trevor believes there may be a time to work together in the future. He suggests regular meetings continue in the future.

An Executive Session to discuss personnel and hiring an executive director position was called at 8:20 AM and ended at 8:30 AM. The Regular Meeting resumed at 8:35 AM.

A motion to hire Jennifer Wakeman at an annual salary of \$75,000 without health benefits was made by Trevor and seconded by Lance. Motion carried.

The motion for the new executive director to start effective immediately was made by Trevor and seconded by Lance. Motion carried.

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New Business:

Jennifer Wakeman arrived at 8:35 AM. John welcomed Jennifer and everyone wished her well. John expressed confidence that her qualifications will further the organization's mission. He said the remainder of the week should be a dedicated orientation period and suggested members attend an orientation meeting on Friday at 2 PM and generally offer to support the new director in whatever ways possible. There was discussion of reactivating the board committee structure. It was agreed staff priorities include the website and responding to inquiries before Jennifer launches into outreach.

Adjournment:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5th at 8 AM, at the same location.

A motion to adjourn was made by Teri and seconded by Matt. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM.

Submitted by Teri MacBride, Secretary