



MILTON • TOWNSHIPS • NEW HAVEN

PINE ISLAND
public schools



ORONOCO • PINE ISLAND • ROSCOE



PINE ISLAND COMMUNITY PLANNING TEAM

Meeting Notes: Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013 – 7:00 PM, EDA Office

ATTENDANCE

Name	Organization	Present	Name	Organization	Present
Tammy Berg-Beniak	School Dist 255	X	Abraham Algadi	City of Pine Island	
John Champa	School Dist 255	X	Paul Perry	City of Pine Island	
Kim Fall	School Dist 255	x	Jerry Vettel	City of Pine Island	x
Rob Warneke	School Dist 255	x	Madge Alberts	Milton Township	x
Karen Doll	Pine Island EDA	X	Dale Thomforde	New Haven Township	x
Troy Kuball	Pine Island EDA	x	Mark Thein	Oronoco Township	x
Rick Keane	Pine Island EDA		Richard Miller	Pine Island Township	x
			Gale Hoven	Roscoe Township	x

AGENDA

- **Updates**
- **City**
 - Elk Run still very slow. A group of city and school folks met with John Pierce from Tower investments and it was very productive. Many businesses are waiting to commit until the interchange is done and the frontage road is committed. The frontage will take out the old Robinson house because it's too expensive to bypass. They have voted to let bids on the frontage road project with six legged roundabout. Using Rochester sales tax money is a possibility – it definitely qualifies as economic development.
 - MnDOT wants to close the north interchange. They are negotiating whether exit from north and entrance to southbound 52 will remain open.
 - City Council voted to eliminate city administrator position/Abraham Algadi.
- **Pine Island Township.** They think Zumbrota fire district issue will finally get settled.
- **New Haven** is having joint meeting with City Council Jan. 29, 6:30 pm, at New Haven Town Hall, to discuss 125th St. corridor preservation study. Engineering firm will be there. County will ultimately make decision.
- **Milton** – No changes since last meeting except both incumbents have filed for re-election.
- **Roscoe** – Money is issue for gravel, fuel for snowplowing, fire departments.
- **Oronoco** –Pretty quiet. No Feb. meeting.
- **Jan. 31 community input meeting**
The forum is hosted by our committee.
Kim, Karen and Jeff Leland met to plan. It will focus on four areas with short presentations on each: Business development, school, city services and quality of life.

Meeting will be three phases - a five minute presentation and a fact sheet on the state of things for each of the four areas. Small groups will look at one of the four areas and brainstorm about how each can be addressed. Small groups will present to full group and full group will vote on priorities.

Need “anchors” for tables. Training for anchors will be at 6 pm.

Suggestion was made that we create an e-mail address for our group that people can send ideas to if they aren't able to attend the forum - or maybe an on-line form that people could fill out.

- **District presentation**

- Tammy presented a facilities assessment of school and gave group a handout.
- All space is being utilized. One grade fully outside building.
- Can it be used better? They are invested in staying in building and maintaining it.
- School board is planning community input meetings in February/March.
- End of March – full school board will talk about what direction to take to address facility needs. School board will hold retreat in April and look at all of this.
- Suggestion was made that board develop criteria to use in addressing issues. Only ed space? Other facilities too? Short or long term need to address?

- **Follow up discussion**

- Pine Island at bottom of HVL sites for space by about 15%, and that's including 6000 square feet of portables.
- 193 open enrolled as of today, mostly from Oronoco. About 40% more come in through open enrollment than go out. It brings in about \$3/4 million.
- Byron had a person do a study of potential projection of student enrollment.
- Growth of community and school are parallel. If we want to be a growing community, we have to have a school facility that supports that. There may be some community folks whose goal is NOT to grow,
- City doesn't have as much money as people think tied up in Elk Run – about \$200,000. Developer has paid most of it.
- The current state of school facility doesn't help Tower market Elk Run. Their wellness community includes athletic facilities.
- We need to reach out to those who voted no in the past to hear their concerns, but wait until after feedback from Jan.31 forum.
- The suggestion was made that we need to meet with seniors too – they tend not to vote for schools.

- **Next Steps: Action Plan & Timeline:**

Action Items	Assigned To	Deadline
Jan. 31 community forum.		
Next meeting talk more about format of March school board forum,		

DECISIONS MADE

- Don't go to townships just yet. Wait until we have more of a plan.
- Wait to meet with folks who did not support past school referendums.
- Facility presentation should include some of the strengths of the current facility.

NEXT MEETING

- **Feb. 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the EDA Office**

Notes submitted by: Madge Alberts