



MILTON • TOWNSHIPS • NEW HAVEN

PINE ISLAND
public schools



ORONOCO • PINE ISLAND • ROSCOE



PINE ISLAND COMMUNITY PLANNING TEAM

Meeting Notes: Wednesday, March 12, 2014 – 7:00 PM, EDA Office

ATTENDANCE

Name	Organization	Present	Name	Organization	Present
Tammy Berg-Beniak	School Dist 255	X	Rod Steele	City of Pine Island	X
John Champa	School Dist 255	X	Jerry Vettel	City of Pine Island	X
Kim Fall	School Dist 255	X	Madge Alberts	Milton Township	X
Rob Warneke	School Dist 255	X	Dale Thomforde	New Haven Township	X
Karen Doll	Pine Island EDA	X	Mark Thein	Oronoco Township	X
Troy Kuball	Pine Island EDA		Richard Miller	Pine Island Township	X
Rick Keane	Pine Island EDA		Gale Hoven	Roscoe Township	
Morgan Hansen	Pine Island Library	X	Greg Houdek	Park Board Chair	X

• Updates - Townships

- **Oronoco Township** – 12 people voted and 7 at the meeting. Mark re-elected clerk.
- **Milton Township** – 38 people voted. 30 at meeting. Candidate for sheriff came to their last meeting to talk about why he's running against current sheriff Jim Jensen.
- **Pine Island Township** – Supervisors and their wives, two retired supervisors, and a resident or two came to the meeting.
- **New Haven Township** – 52 voters; 30 at meeting. Voters from Byron were split 6-6 on the Byron school bond referendum. A resident raised an issue about a road in the township that is too narrow for the school bus. Town board hasn't heard anything about it. Road is 88th Ave., off Co. 105, which intersects with 3. Dale put a link to the school's referendum info on the township's website. They are giving residents an option of getting fire signs at a shared cost.

• Updates - City

- **School:** They shared calendar and communication pieces they will be using. They will put the presentations on-line after the last one. They will videotape and Karen can put on Channel 7 afterwards. Tammy handed out items that will be on the school website.
- **City** – East frontage road engineering is almost done. It's about a 90 day construction project. Should be open by fall. It's generating the interest they wanted. A developer from Stewartville bought all remaining lots in Pinecrest. 125th St. – still trying to get county to move up work. Trying to give them some incentive to finance it cheaply. Karen is doing a wonderful job with this. The west end will probably get done first. \$3.2 of the 7.2 million is the bridge. Dale says to make sure the bridge is higher than the bridge on 31 that was under water in the last flood. City hired a new deputy city clerk – Heidi Keifer, a Pine Island resident. She starts March 24. Frozen pipes all over, including golf course.
- **EDA** – Karen is still working with a couple of companies but no public announcements. She's working with businesses to get a grant to train businesses on collective

marketing campaigns. New business – Diamond Grooming – Katy Tang. There's something going on in building that was Workout 24/7. They discovered there's a tunnel that was a bootlegging tunnel under Main Street. Moving forward with meetings with DMC. Consensus that they need to regionalize what they are doing. Don't want too many – so they will start with a few working collectively. Developing tourism for this region, and transportation networks between communities. DMC is taking a year and 8 million for planning. We have a lot to gain from this. The city council meetings are now being live video-streamed – they are working on quality. You can watch it for 30 days. Mayo Civic Center is having sessions about tourism in driftless region.

- **Van Horn Library** – Wrapped up One Town One Title; went very well - 220 people participated. Had to re-schedule bus trip due to weather. Panel discussion on foster care and adoptions was phenomenal - on front page of paper today. Friday 1:30-4:30 will be assistance for people who want to sign up for MNSure. Sign up is with Three Rivers. Morgan and other librarians visited Dodge and Olmsted commissioners.
- **Park Board** – They need to replace Joel Knox. Contact Greg or city hall. Separate group working on swimming pool. Baskets and flowers ordered for spring, and picnic tables for Hassler Park. Theresa Carlson hired as pool manager. Hiring staff now. Bushman house – gearing up for auction – guy working on the recordation of the project is not done and says they can't have auction until he is done. Rod say they can get into the attic to look things over so they can hold the auction before it gets torn down. House will be taken down in May.

- **Updates - School**

- Lots of work done to finalize presentation. One thing they heard early on is that people want to see and feel what it will look like. The building will sit on the site nicely – front faces S.W. Three school hosted meetings are on the handout. Pine Island's school taxes are going down 14%--and that was publicized in PB today. Byron had a low voter turnout. DMC mentioned Byron on their Facebook page yesterday. Tammy said Byron's building projected to open 16-17, ours is planned for 15. They are using an existing design for PI school, which saves a lot of money and time. If passed, dirt will move in August. Operating costs for school will fit within budget so there will be no new operating levy. April 16th info session will be at the Milton Township Town Hall.
- They are interested in a vote yes committee – three co-chairs. If anyone has suggestions, let Tammy know. Krause Anderson will work with them. Jan McNallan was suggested. Joel Knox? Dave or Jan Sween?
- Seniors meet first Wednesday of month – that's the day to talk to them.
- It's bigger than just the school – the community coming together to focus on something for the community.

- **CPT Discussion**

- Mayor of Oronoco is interested in joining us and will be taking this to his Council.

NEXT MEETING

- **April 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the EDA Office**

Note taker will be – Tammy

Notes submitted by: Madge Alberts