

PINE ISLAND public schools



PINE ISLAND COMMUNITY PLANNING TEAM

Meeting Notes: Wednesday, September 16, 2015 – 7:00 PM, Van Horn Library

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	
Kim Fall	School Dist 255	X	Madge Alberts	Milton Twp	X
Rob Warneke	School Dist 255	X	Dale Thomforde	New Haven Twp	X
Nate Carlson	Pine Island EDA		Mark Thein	Oronoco Twp	X
Troy Kuball	Pine Island EDA		Richard Miller	Pine Island Twp	X
Rick Keane	Pine Island EDA		Gale Hoven	Roscoe Twp	
Morgan Hansen	Van Horn Library	X	Todd Omberg	Park Board Chair	X
Kevin McDermott	City of Oronoco	X	Courtney Schaefer	Chamber of Commerce	X
			Mary Andrist	New Haven Twp	X

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – 7:00 p.m.

2. Township Updates

- **Milton Township** – Small utility wants to put repeaters in right of way; doing lots of road work; developed a road maintenance policy due to a couple of special maintenance requests by township residents
- **Oronoco Township**- Variances, Sewer project is moving forward, construction will start this spring
- **Pine Island Township** – Not much going on; asked about contributing to funds toward a swimming pool – answer was no unless township has part in management
- **New Haven Township** – Road was closed in New Haven Township near school, article that appeared in Post Bulletin was not very accurate, researching/implementing various options to make roads near school safe

3. School Updates: Grand opening of new PreK-4 building – close to 1000 people at ribbon cutting, work continues on 5-12 school; school started last week. Everything on 5-12 site is on or ahead of scheduled. We are about a year ahead of other area school districts who passed a referendum at the same time – due to starting with an existing school design (which also saved significant funds). Homecoming is next week.

4. City Updates

- **City of Oronoco** – Company called CH Robinson is looking into putting a data center in Oronoco – established a TIF district; finally got bids back on removal of dams and restoration of river beds – hoping to have an answer later this month on request for additional funding for the project; still discussing joint waste water treatment plant system with Pine Island
- **City of Pine Island** – In the midst of budget process – passed a maximum proposed levy increase of 20% (13% is for debt service); discussing maintenance agreement of 125th St with New Haven Twp; presentation by Veteran’s and Emergency Services Museum looking at locating in Pine Island – help them locate a site so they can seek funding; received a proposal for a 24 unit housing development in downtown Pine Island; building permits and real estate are up;
- **Park Board** – Pool referendum scheduled for November 2016, working on skateboard ramps; community garden is wrapping up; farmers market will keep going for another month or so
- **Van Horn Library** – Morgan presented a workshop to Historical Society about how to use the Digital Newspaper Hub database; youth librarian Joan Sand helped with Read and Ride Day at the State Fair; straw bale garden continues to grow – have donated 5-6 dozen cherry tomatoes to the Sharing Shelves; Morgan is spending time at Better Brew this week to talk to people about what the library offers; Library Board started an online petition to gauge public interest/support for a new, larger library facility
- **Chamber of Commerce** – Gearing up for next year; this Saturday is last Pine Island Saturday Nights for this year
- **EDA** – New business – Farm Technologies; Veteran’s Museum; Downtown housing development

3. Discussion Items

- None

4. Next meeting: October 21 at 7 pm at. Notetaker: Madge Alberts

Notes submitted by: Morgan Hansen