

Downtown Business Association

May 14, 2019

Attendance

Paul Bucciarelli – Duquesne University Small Business

Angie Urban – New Visions

Eileen Borrelli – PA Career Link Lawrence County

Anita McKeever – DON's Services

Linda Nitch – LCEDC/Chamber of Commerce

Ronda Watkins – WesBanco Bank

Randy Keslar – Edward Jones

Alex McCoy – LCEDC/Chamber of Commerce

Thomi McCom – DON's Services

Anthony Mastrangelo – City of New Castle

Call to order – Alex McCoy

Approval of Minutes – Angie Urban, Anita McKeever seconded

Financial Report – Alex McCoy, treasurer. Cash on hand \$5,503.61

Partners Reports –

➤ **City of New Castle:**

- Currently Pro Tech is paving 2 ½ street miles in Croton which is ½ million dollar project to eliminate pot holes.
- There was no tax increase for 2019
- There are 95 sites on the list for blight removal, they are hoping to knock down 60 with the funds they have. The lower east side and south side are the targeted areas
- There are two groups competing to purchase the St. Francis Hospital property. One group is tied into the Veterans program, investing \$20 million and will bring 300 employees in. The second group is out of California
- Trying to bring new businesses into town while retaining current businesses.

➤ **County of Lawrence:** Not in attendance

➤ **Regional Chamber of Commerce:**

- Applications for the Leadership class is ending at the end of May. It is limited to 20 applicants. It raised \$12,513.00
- The golf outing is coming up, June 10th. Currently there are 21 teams signed up, 4 Gold and 1 platinum. Want to have 26 teams participate.
- The link for DBA is now on the Chamber Website. Alex ran the video that Pat Amabile has on the site.

- **Tourist Promotion** – Not in attendance
- **PA Career Link:**
 - Eileen passed out informational references:
 - Lawrence County Profile (unemployment rate)
 - School to Work being held on Monday May 20th at BC3
 - Build & Grow your business in Lawrence County workshop being held on May 22nd 7:30-11:30am at Medure’s Catering on New Butler Rd
 - Basic Health Care Employment Skills workshop being held from June 2 to July 2 every Tues & Thur 8am to 4:30pm. This is to learn the basic skills needed for entry level employment in the health care field or prepare to enroll in a certified training program related to health care.
 - Manufacturing Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate June 3-July 25 online course with class meeting on Thur 8 to noon
 - Job Fair & Training Expo Tues June 18th 10am to 2pm at PA Career Link, 102 Margaret St,
 - Employer Needs Assessment survey. Designed to identify a person’s specific training needs
- **New Visions:**
 - Preparing to plant flowers downtown Sat June 1st
 - The veterans office is to highlight veterans by placing banners on light poles downtown. The banners will have Hometown Hero’s and will have their picture, name and branch of the service they were in. 65 banners will be going up.
 - June 21st is the first Friday concert of the summer at the Riverwalk Park downtown featuring the Dural’s and classic car show being put on by the Rapid Tapid car group
 - 4 “Welcome to New Castle” signs will be placed on the North, South, East and West end of New Castle (exact spots to be determined) being paid for by the funds raised by the Leadership classes
 - They are looking for corporate sponsors/partners
- **DON’s Services:**
 - The Fireworks Festival will be held on July 10th 10am to 10pm downtown
 - Neighborhood Assistance Program informational meetings will be held on May 22nd at 4 & 5pm which explains the tax credit to businesses to help non profits
 - Continuing their rehab of the lower east side

Adjournment – there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:00pm. The next meeting will be held at noon on Tues June 12th at the Chamber Office.