

Archbald Borough Community Development and Economic Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Tom Aniska. A moment of silence was followed by the Pledge or Allegiance. Roll call: Aniska, Gallagher, Moran, Pryle, O'Shea, Misewicz-Healey, Cornell

New Business

1. State Representative Kyle Mullens talked about reminding people what's happening to their tax dollars. He gave the example of improving sidewalks. He thanked the committee members for their service.

Cornell asked about grants available for improving sidewalks in Archbald. He mentioned both the DCED/PennDOT Multi-Modal. He also mentioned the Arley grant for safe crosswalks.

Moran mentioned that the borough just received a Multimodal \$100,000 grant for sidewalks.

Mark Gallagher asked about funding coming from the federal government. Representative Mullens mentioned PA Rescue plan. He recommended focusing federal money on human infrastructure. The state budget is due at the end of June. Municipalities are applying to ARPA now.

Municipalities have to go after the funds. Municipalities need to come up with a strategic plan and which project to focus on. Make it clear what is the borough's priority.

2. **Summary of Comprehensive Planning Meeting:** Mark Gallagher gave a summary of the comprehensive planning/SALDO meeting that took place on May 24th. Pryle and Cornell were also in attendance: People are being more encouraged to look into light industrial as opposed to heavy industry. With all of the rezoning, there have to be allowances that have to be made for multi-family units. One possible area is between the light industrial and private recreation zone. It was talked about adjusting the area across from Pasquale's to commercial on Main Street. There are opportunities for commercial on the right hand side of Kennedy Drive after passing Lockheed Martin. There needs to be conversation about curb appeal and facades.

Gallagher mentioned making a riverfront with parks and making the downtown more attractive. Misewicz-Healey asked if we can we look at developers to make buildings more attractive to businesses. We have businesses that are interested, but we don't have the buildings for them. Moran mentioned how our Main Street moved. We have to plan our Main Street out. Gallagher asked the council how the comprehensive planning is going. Owen stated that it is going well. Moran stated we need parking and make apartments where fisherman can stay from the weekend. Francis stated there are fisherman coming from out of the area. Misewicz-Healey stated that Kennedy Drive is our essential area/community essentials. Main Street from bridge to bridge is our specialty area/hipster area with bars, restaurants, boutiques. It is totally different markets. Mixed industrial would be on Route 6. Francis stated there are 11,000 runners or bikers in one year on the Heritage Trail.

3. **Dog Park Proposal :** Mike McAndrew proposed creating a dog park in Archbald since the AC dog park has moved. Archbald Borough is the largest borough in the state. He is looking for the piece of land, 2,000 SQ FT and a place that is reasonably accessible near AC field or in Nebraska field.

Usually there are three to four cars. He is not looking for money. He wants to borrow land. He would have a party cleanup there once a month. Misewicz-Healey recommended using Staback park since so many people illegally use the sports fields to run their dogs. Moran mentioned there is a piece of land next to Staback park is owned by Louis Denaples that might be an option. Aniska stated he will present it to borough Council and borough Manager and report back to McAndrew.

4. **Town Motto Proposal** - Misewicz-Healey presented her town motto contest. Committee members decided to launch the contest in August, have Council vote on it in September and announce the winner in the end of September. Councilwoman Owen recommended some edits. Aniska also recommended us committee members have a vote. Mark recommended whatever process we go with be clear to the public.
5. **Farmer's Market**- Pryle gave an update on his research with starting a farmer's market. We will start with one location and have it three times during the summer with food trucks and breweries. The food trucks can have a special based on what is in season. A location is currently being researched. Moran recommended having the farmer's market by Gentex. Robbie proposed Filbert Street. Marie Angeli recommended having the farmer's market at three different locations. You can also pull in crafters.
6. **Main Street Program and Outdoor Towns** – Cornell recommended we apply for grants and programs to revitalize our Main Street and connect our downtown with the river, heritage trail, and outdoor recreation in the area. The grant cycle for the Keystone Communities Main Street program is coming up, and Cornell recommended we apply for the facade grant or the planning grant. The LSA grant will also be opening up most likely in July through September. Cornell talked about the Outdoor Towns Program and the Main Street program.

Aniska gave an overview of what we talked about. He stated it seems our main projects are the dog park, town motto, the farmer's market, the welcome to Archbald booklet, and doing the Main Street and Outdoor Town programs long term to revitalize the downtown.

Public Input: Andgeli state we need to restore Archbald.

Motion to Adjourn by Aniska and seconded by Cornell at 8:36