

**New Britain Civic Association
Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2015**

In Attendance: Mary Pat and David Holewinski, Malcolm Rollins, Peg Havener, Derek and Kathy MacMillan, Stacey and Joe Crescitelli, Marie and Tony Coia, Peter LaMontagne, Halsey White, Joe Plummer, John and Kathleen Tatu, Vinnie Queris, Peg Remmey, June Bair, Rick Eggleston, Bob Belchic, Jeff Gilmore, Al and Dawn Marciante, Bob Showalter, Jack and Kim Brady, David Siegfried, Richard & Lorraine Moxey, Mary Jane and Bill Macklem, Lynnda Coleman, Bob Binkley, Jo Schuler, Harry Baum, Kim and Mike Pultro, Tom Price, Peggy Jones, Mark Adamsky, Regina Armitage and many, many other community members.

David Holewinski opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in memory of Linda Cangelosi who passed away yesterday evening.

David distributed a copy of an email from Peter LaMontagne stating his plans to begin a "bloodless coup" and remove David from the Presidency.

David also then listed the activities and efforts made by the current Civic Association Board over the last 6 years. Open space agreement reached and funds received from Bucks County, 501C3 status obtained (with the assistance of Marie Coia, CPA), electrical improvements were made, pond improvements made, septic improvements, well improvements, picnic area improvement, playground equipment additions, tree trimming/grooming, trail maintenance. David also noted that he has (since he became mayor in 2010) performed wedding ceremonies and asked that couples make a donation to Civic Association instead of paying him a gratuity - to date over \$7,000 has been donated to Civic at David's behest.

David Holewinski went on to state that after our June 2015 meeting (when legal concerns were presented by Mrs. LaMontagne) he consulted with a lawyer (at his own expense) and was advised that the board was not acting illegally, the current bylaws uphold all actions to date. A special meeting was held July 13 to amend the old bylaws, adopt interim bylaws and elect two new board members and officers for the next year - over the course of the next year new bylaws will be written and then presented for approval at the June 2016 annual membership meeting.

Minutes: June 2015 minutes were presented. Mary Pat made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Derek seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Minutes: July 13, 2015 Special Board Meeting minutes were made available for review and summarized by David Holewinski. Mary Pat made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Vinnie and approved unanimously.

Financial Report: was presented by Malcolm Rollins. This month's expenses include the \$500 Michael C. Havener Memorial Scholarship and \$210 in pond surface cleaning expenses, water quality reports/testing, etc. Receipts included \$105 in membership fees, \$100 in a wedding donation from David Holewinski, and \$60 in early Duck Derby receipts. Halsey White made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Mary Pat and the report was unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Social Media: Vicky Cangelosi could not be here tonight due to the passing of her mother Linda last night. Vicky is working to update our website currently.

New Shed Project: Peter LaMontagne gave us an update on the shed project and presented the construction drawings.

Print of Covered Bridge: Bruce Burkart showed us the lovely framed print of a watercolor the old New Britain Train Station that is a gift with a \$250 donation to the new shed project (AJ Framing - at New Britain Town Center will professionally frame the prints for \$50.99)

Community Garden at Orchard Park Water Supply Line: Currently a hose runs to the community garden from the Covered Bridge Park/Civic Association Well. A proposal to construct an underground supply line to the garden is proposed by the Orchard Park committee. David has asked our plumber, Ken Bauer, to investigate the depth of our well and the gallons per minute capacity. Board members have voiced concerns over possible impact on the water quality, water supply, and well safety.

Derek opened discussion, additional comments/discussion followed. Concerns over additional expenses to Civic Association were mentioned. Mary Pat, Lorraine and Vinnie discussed the need to work on a careful agreement.

Halsey White made a motion to approve the underground pipe line assuming Ken Bauer gives us a positive report, seconded by Vinnie and the motion was approved with the exception of Mary Pat who opposed it.

David will get the report from Ken.

Weekly Park Clean Up Assignments Currently Peg Havener and David Riccardi are cleaning the bathrooms at the park on Mondays and David and Mary Pat Holewinski are cleaning the bathrooms on Fridays. An appeal was made for additional volunteers to help

with clean up. Mens Room light is not working and the Ladies Room light is working intermittently. David made an appeal for anyone with any electrical expertise.

Duck Derby Discussion Forms for duck sales were passed out to all in attendance. Nancy and Sue have committed to do the food concessions again. Derek made a brief presentation on the derby. The Derby will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2015. Duck Derby Committee will begin meeting regularly soon. The Civic Association Website will have details soon.

Property Line Problems the Civic Board is working with the owner of the adjacent former apple orchard property to rectify property line issues.

NEW BUSINESS

By-Laws David discussed the formation of a committee to work on preparing new by laws. Volunteers were requested. Halsey White volunteered and was made chairman of the committee, David as president will be on the committee, Vicky Cangelosi was assigned to the committee, Jeff Gilmore, Bob Belchic, June Bair and Dawn Marciante volunteered to be on the committee. We will also have an attorney (names will be suggested by Mike Goodwin) to oversee and assist with the process. Derek made a motion to assign the committee members as volunteered, Mary Pat seconded and the committee was approved.

Email Address Project a list of accurate email addresses is needed to enable us to contact the membership. David will ask Lori Kesilman to help with this.

Clean Up of Median Strip at Entrance to the Borough Mary Pat suggested a need to work on a committee to improve the small grassy/weeding patch in the median at the entrance to the borough on Butler Pike. Kathy MacMillan offered to chair the committee and work on improving gardens at the edge of the park. Mary Pat, Regina, John and Kathleen Tatu and Peg Havener all offered assistance. Plans will be made as soon as possible.

Peter LaMontagne presented his thoughts and comments and discussion followed. He commented that Civic had over \$122,000 in the bank and could fund many of the projects he mentioned. Lorraine Moxey took great exception to Peter's statement about Civic needing "a better class of members" and was joined by others in the audience.

Bob Showalter offered to donate the three planks from the old Covered Bridge he has in his pole barn to be used to possibly build benches for the park. Bob Binkley and Halsey White will work on this project and present ideas at the next meeting.

David Holewinski formally thanked **Joe Plummer** for the beautiful plans he donated for the new Covered Bridge Park shed.

Mary Pat made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9 PM, seconded by **Derek MacMillan** and unanimously approved.