

Minutes of the special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rouses Point, New York held on April 30, 2009 in the upstairs of the Village Office located at 139 Lake Street commencing at 10:12 a.m.

PRESENT: Brian B. Jefferson, Deputy Mayor
Francis J. Baker, Trustee
John L. Cooper, Trustee

ALSO PRESENT: Arsene F. Letourneau, Treasurer
Melissa McManus, Comm. Dev. Consultant

ABSENT: George A. Rivers, Mayor
Jean L. Birtz, Trustee

RECORDING SECRETARY: Carol A. Hanfield, Village Clerk

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

Deputy Mayor Jefferson called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. and turned the meeting over to Melissa McManus to give an update on the revitalization projects in the Village.

Old Beach and Veteran's Park Project/Gateway Signage and Landscaping (2006 DOS EPF, 2006 Scenic Byways).

Melissa gave an update on the work that needs to be done on Montgomery Street, the Gateways to the Village, Veteran's Park and the Old Beach; she explained that the ornamental lights will be installed on the north end of Montgomery Street replacing the existing ones. She talked about having the old beach area cleaned up and maybe place picnic tables and allow people to launch their kayaks.

The Project Advisory Committee is working on the re-dedication of the Veteran's Park. The Committee held a vote of 5 to 0 to re-dedicate it as Veteran's Park. They also held a vote of 5 to 2 to keep the tank and design around it. The idea to move the tank from in front of the Civic Center to the Veteran's Park was discussed. The Village Board will have to make a decision on this.

Downtown Lake Access (2006 OPRHP EPF):

This is the walkway between Kathy's Furniture and Calgah Computer. The building in the back has been removed. This area will be worked on for next year as a Village Park. She is still working on grants because the Senator little member item was zeroed out.

Main Street Project:

The Main Street Project of 2005 is for the facades on the buildings in the downtown area. There have been five projects done. There is a projected extension to fall of 2009. The Village has purchased new benches, bike loops, and signs/parking and will be purchasing banners.

Melissa addressed some of the buildings that have been done under the Main Street Project and suggested to the Board that they should consider giving the downtown businesses who were not interested in the Main Street Project the incentive to purchase windows and doors. The money for this would come from the IEEP.

Marketing and Promotion Project (2006 QC)

Melissa stated that the Marketing and Promotion Committee has been established and Ad Workshop was hired to work on this project. She stated that there was \$56,000 in funding available from the State to implement this campaign. She presented pictures/designs for Rouses Point's new logo for revitalization. The grant money for this project expired in March and there is still money to be implemented so she has put in for an extension and when we receive it we will have a one year marketing campaign.

2007 EPF Project – Revitalization Plan Implementation:

Melissa stated that she has been working with businesses and there are two new businesses opening in Rouses Point. She introduced John Charron who will be opening up a Music Shop at the Betty Chicken Galore building on Lake Street. He will be offering piano, drum, guitar and bass lessons and also be refurbishing instruments, selling music and other items and plans on opening on June 1st. The owner of the building, Fred Fuller, will be opening up a tile/carpet store and have other office space available.

It was also stated that the new owners of Gaines Marina will be renting out space for a take out restaurant and the owner will be opening up a 'Creative Memory Scrap Booking' shop in the front building.

D & H Project:

Melissa then stated that the D & H stimulus money from the federal government in the amount of \$832,000 has no match and explained that the money earmarked by Congressman McHugh will pay for her salary and help finish off the D & H Station.

2009 EPF Grant Application Possibilities:

Melissa stated that the Village did not put in an application for a EPF Grant and she expects there is money available and the grant will be available on line June 1st with a deadline of September. The Board needs to decide if they wish to pursue this grant. She thinks that the money spent on the Civic Center ceiling may be able to be used as a match. This grant would help facilitate making the web site bi-lingual; the community redevelopment strategy – design guidelines for the remainder of the commercial/industrial areas; more on the gateway to include planting trees and doing other landscaping on Route 2 to Lake Street and then down to the downtown area in preparation for the marketing effort for a hotel.

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Jefferson made a motion to adjourn at 11:27 a.m.; Seconded by Mayor Rivers; AYE CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol A. Hanfield
Village Clerk