



Partners for Progress 8/14/19

The meeting was called to order by President Bill D'Angelo at 8: 34 followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Karen Weidman read the minutes of the last meeting. Linda Gray made a motion to accept the minutes seconded by Kathy Link. Motion carried.

Kathy Link read the treasurer's report. Michele Shaughnessy made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Linda Gray. Motion carried.

Louise Wadsworth reported on Oct 8th a Destination Downtown Conference will be held from 6-8 PM. It is designed to provide ideas to increase sales. Reps will be here 3-4 days ahead of time going to shops to get idea of what is needed. For \$500 fee they will do individual consulting for a business. There will be a \$10 fee for Livingston County residents/businesses to attend the conference meeting. Registration is open now.

Louise reported there is a new start-up kit for businesses that has been done in conjunction with the Chamber doing a start-up business workshop. She is re-applying for a National Endowment for the Arts grant for Inspiration Trail.

Elissa Russell from the Chamber of Commerce indicated they have hired Molly Shanahan as Communication and Events Coordinator. They will soon be adding a Director of Educational Employment who will work in conjunction with BOCES in order to connect students with businesses before graduation. Matrimony map has been completed.

The annual county familiarization bus tour will be held on Oct. 10th. This year's theme is Agri-tourism. Charge \$30 per person.

Nicole Manapol indicated they have kicked off Rural Economic Development. A webinar was held last week which is now on the website. They have received the next round of funding from USDA. Someone is being hired to digitally manage the Genesee Valley map guide and digital Main St.; which is info and guidelines specifically designed for small towns/businesses. Adopt a business will resume. Food tourism is ongoing with a forum scheduled for Oct 22nd.

A letter was sent to merchants regarding the Italian Fest and the importance of supporting it through sidewalk sales and decorations. Partners is raffling a lottery shirt and a Kindle. Italian flags were purchased to sell and to put in the flower boxes. Wall signing for the community will be from 11-12:30 on Aug 17. The Mills Mansion is doing a birthday party for Mary Seymour Howell.

Several members of Partners met with Justin Suarez about doing a mural but decided not to pursue with him. Shawn Dunwoody has suggested a community mural using adhesive backed material. It is essentially a paint by number type of thing. Ideas include a military and first responders tribute. Application will be made for a grant from Council on the Arts. We need to get our mural on mural websites to entice people to village.

The "When I Dream" blackboard on Theater 101 is almost finished due to the work of Greg Bump and Dave Provo.

Michele Shaughnessey indicated the Garden Club is working on wooden pumpkins to be put in the flower boxes for fall. Greenway has presented the club a project near RGE by the bridge to put in a garden, compost bathroom, bike racks, gazebo, etc. The wall at the boat launch is going to be decorated with flowers and greenery.

Greg Bump met with Lisa Beardsley of the Dept. of Health to establish a "Be Well in Livingston" program in partnership with the school.

Dollar General and the fire department will be sponsoring a school supply give away on Aug. 30th at the fire hall.

Kathy Link proposed Theater 101 be converted to a Community Center to be run and used by area service organizations. A member of each organization would form a committee to oversee the running of it. It could also be rented out for parties and events to help cover costs.

Posters of the new map are going to be put on the Greenway.

Motion to adjourn at 9:28 by Kathy Link, seconded by Linda Gray.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS WILL BE HELD ON
SEPTEMBER 18TH DUE TO THE 9/11 CEREMONY.**

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Weidman

