

**Community Building Development Team  
Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Location: Solon Center Wesleyan Church

**VISION STATEMENT**

The Community Building Development Team exists to construct a building and space where the many clubs, governmental entities, educational organizations, community organizations and residents of the greater Cedar Springs community can gather for cultural, educational, recreational, commercial and family/community events. Because this vision enhances the mission and goals of these many entities, we hope to collaborate with them to design, raise the funds and construct this space. It is our goal, as reflected in the vision statements of many other community entities, that the space will retain our small-town character, incorporate natural features, link neighborhoods, enhance characteristics that already define our community and make it easy for families, youth, senior citizens, organizations and all community members to gather, celebrate and serve each other.

**Attendees:**

Tom Mabie	Bob Truesdale	Betty Truesdale	Tom Holloway	Kurt Mabie
Claudia Mabie	Sue Wolfe	Sonya Cronkright	Donna Clark	Amanda Gerhardt
Julie Wheeler	Deb McIntyre	Duane McIntyre	Mark Laws	Shannon Cooper
Len Allington				

The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by Kurt Mabie.

1. Kurt reported that there is a donation to cover the cost of relocating the firebarn.
  - A. Kurt will ask to be on the agenda for the City Council meeting on October 10, 7pm to present the donation and ask the Council if they will accept it.
  - B. Bob met with an architect who agreed to do the site analysis for free.
2. Election of officers:  
President – Kurt Mabie, Vice-President – Tom Mabie, Secretary – Carolee Cole, Treasurer – Betty Truesdale, Trustees – Sonya Cronkright, Sue Wolfe, Shannon Cooper
3. Set up Fund for Donations:  
The group decided to see if the City would set up a special fund within the City’s financial database, a separate, special fund called “The Cedar Springs Area Community Building Project Fund” to receive monies/donations for our community projects. The fund will be overseen by Betty Truesdale, as Treasurer of our team, and one other person. Bob will consult the City’s attorney for legal advice and Kurt will consult with Jerry Homminga. Bob requested that members of the group send him questions they would like to have him ask the attorney. Julie Wheeler was asked to look into the State laws governing such funds.  
NOTE: Bob was asked to remind the Council of their mission statement.
4. Needs Assessment from Parks and Recreation Department:  
Kurt thanked Amanda Gerhardt and her organization for their cooperation and sharing of the needs assessment they had done in the past. Amanda, Shannon and Sue were appointed to review the needs assessment and update the parts that are outdated. Kurt requested that they email the update before our next meeting, November 19, so that members will have time to absorb the information and be prepared for next steps.
5. Meeting with Other Groups to Extend Invitation for Meetings and Ideas
  - A. Kurt met with the Parks and Rec Board last evening at their October meeting. He has met with CSPPS Superintendent Ron McDermed, members of the Fire Department, and he attended the monthly Library Board’s New Library Building Committee meeting, September 24.
  - B. Other groups were mentioned - the Lions, Women’s Club, Chamber of Commerce, Red Flannel Festival, DDA, CTA, the Townships, the City and the Library Board. The group decided that they should meet with the Library Board at their monthly meeting this month, October 28, to share with them first.

NOTE: DDA – Kurt asked Sonya and Len to share past DDA plans, especially concerning Trail development and traffic flows. Sonya said that some years ago the DDA did create guidelines for development along the Trail. We would be interested in seeing those.

1. It was decided that Claudia, Sue and Kurt would be the persons to go to the groups and present the vision/message of the Cedar Springs Area Community Building Project. Amanda Gerhardt and Sonya Cronkright will work on that message so that a concise, consistent message (with handouts) is presented to the public. The presentation is to be made to all groups/boards in November.

**Script/flyer ideas:** Build on the vision statements/the passion of each group, include the goals of all groups in our community- see how they interconnect/overlap, use this for unity; ask each organization to send a representative to our meetings; provide the contact information of 2-3 of our committee persons on flyers, as well as committee meeting dates and a place to write notes. Kurt spoke of “pieces of a puzzle” and that as we go through this brainstorming and reaching-out process, pieces of the “Community Building Puzzle” present themselves. After awhile, they will fit together and make a picture.

6. Permission from the City Council for use of City Property to be requested in November. The group feels it is very important that the City will accept ownership of the building.
7. Mark Laws was assigned to contact the DNR about how to clean up and reclaim Cedar Creek.
8. Prints of Building – this item was tabled for now

The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm. Our next meeting is November 19, 5:30pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 19, 2013, 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Solon Wesleyan Church.  
Please contact Carolee Cole at [caroleecole@gmail.com](mailto:caroleecole@gmail.com) if you cannot make it.

Respectfully submitted, Substitute Secretary, Donna Clark