

Capture Teams Update

To: Vision Together 2025 Board Meeting
From: Quan Britt
Date: November 7, 2023

Bikes and Trails

First and most importantly, we had an official ribbon cutting for the bike racks at the county library. Those racks were completely designed by the greater Johnstown School district welding club students. They ended up being a really cool project that involved GJSD, the greater Johnstown career and technology center as their students did the laser cut insert, gap wax rolled the rings for the students, and JWF powder coated them. The library bike rack is the first of 13 that will go through the city. The first four are completed and the students are working on more as we speak. Additionally, we are nearing completion of the final new mountain bike trail on the incline plane hillside. This trail will be named wildcat as a thank you to the UPJ indoor track team that came out and helped us dig it.

GREENSPACE- COMMUNITY GARDENS Gary Weible

For October we held our Adopt a highway event where we collected 10 bags of litter with help from the UPJ students.

Going into November we don't have any projects as of yet. Any projects will depend on the weather.

UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS

Greater Johnstown United Neighborhoods

Neighborhoods have been holding their monthly meetings regularly. We had our neighborhood report out on Sept 20 at Christ Centered Church. In preparation for our bigger report, which was held on Sept 26th at the Holiday Inn. Next united neighborhoods meeting will be held on Nov.15th 6p @ Christ Centered Church on Somerset St.

TREEVITALIZE

On behalf of Vision, at our Capture Team Volunteer Luncheon it was announced that we were awarded a \$666,000 grant for urban orchards, which included some ornamental trees, not all fruit trees.

We met with Brad Clemenson about Tree Grant. We discussed who we would buy trees from ? We know that Western Conservation will be in charge of that part of the grant. CFA will be doing the marketing and PR. We will be looking to form a taskforce to deliver on taking care of the trees after they are planted. We are in the process of getting a meeting set up with the western pennsylvania conservation and the USDA to get more info and ask more questions.

Health & Wellness Work Group

Meeting Summary

July 10, 2023

Meeting Summary

Guests: George Bivens, Alan Cashaw, Emily Wood

I. Welcome

Jeannine McMillan welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Alan Cashaw for attending.

II. Vision Executive Director Update – Rob Forcey

Rob Forcey brought the group up to date on Vision's work in the community with the Capture Teams; participating in cleaning up various parks and playgrounds; meetings with RK Mellon Foundation to discuss sustainability of the arts organization in Johnstown, and the Johnstown Vision scholarship program.

III. Priority Area Discussion

Quan Britt, Vision Community Development Director

- Violence/Abuse/Safety

Hope 4 Johnstown is a grassroots organization established by members of the community to curb violence in the city and to strengthen our community by embracing our differences and coming together to stand against the causes of violence. Quan's presentation – *Hope 4 Johnstown/Cure the Violence* – will be shared with the group.

- Community events held at Solomon Homes and Oakhurst Homes were very successful. Additional events are scheduled for Coopersdale Homes (7/15); Hornerstown Wood Street playground (7/29); Moxham Park Avenue playground (8/5) and Roxbury Park Back2School (8/12). Volunteers are always welcome at these events.

- Community involvement events are held to provide hope to our youth and families. Rob Forcey stressed that in order to continue providing these events, funding is needed.

Jobs/Socioeconomics

Brad Burger's presentation – *Workforce Development Concerns in a Declining Population Environment* was shared.

A suggestion was made to present this information to the Vision Board and Cambria Regional Chamber members.

Rob Forcey talked about two initiatives Vision is working on in the community:

- Early Childhood initiative to provide free or low-cost daycare so single parents can go back to work.
- Johnstown Vision, a program to provide post-secondary education for any child in the 15901-15909 zip codes.

IV. Community Health Summit Agenda

Jeannine distributed an agenda from the 2022 Summit and asked the group to review it for any other items that should be highlighted during the event. An interactive Poverty Simulation will be held in the morning with updates from the seven priority areas and a break-out session in the afternoon.

V. State Health Improvement Plan Update

Jeannine will send information on the State Health Improvement Plan separately.

Next Meeting: Nov 13 2023 at 10:30 a.m., Conference on the Park

ADAPTIVE & REUSE

Vision Together 2025 Adaptive Reuse & Preservation Capture Team

Oct 25, 2023 – 3:30 pm

Cambria County Academic Center Conference Room
457 Locust St, Johnstown, PA 15901

1. Old Business
 - a. Land Bank Properties - Truscello
 - b. Facade Improvements - Carthew, Polester
 - c. Downtown Upper Floor Residential Project – Carthew, Gallagher, Truscello
 - d. Historic Survey/Application Update if/as required – Burkert, Truscello, Johansson
 - e. CBD Conceptual Plan Map - Carthew, Truscello, Polester

2. New Business
 - a. Misc. Projects/Updates by members and guests

3. November meeting – 11/29/23 - 3:30 pm (Cambria County Academic Center Conference Room)

8/30/23 Meeting Recap:

Attendees: Rick Truscello, Barry Gallagher, Quan Britt, Barry Polester, Andy Fedor, Rob Forcey, Jim Carthew

1. Old Business:

a. Land Bank Properties:

- i. Property short list, make selection and present to JRA for review and possible (City Land Bank) purchase. The following Short List with On-Site assessment for review and discussion:

n 540 Cypress Ave
40 x 120

Benjamin Gallagher
540 Cypress Ave., Johnstown, PA.

Assessment: Fair condition and a good candidate. Gallagher to review and confirm interest status.

- ii. Land Bank Update: JRA has acquired a total of 27 properties, which 522 have been transferred. JRA is in need of staff to administer the Land Bank administration requirements and will review operating costs to establish fee requirements.

b. Facade Improvements: Grant application accepted and awarded for \$1,000. Upon review team agreed to coordinate this funding with the City's Facade program and use with consideration of a Main Street property (662 Main Street Ludwig House) and the Main Street Greenway revitalization project. Polester noted that the application has been submitted and is under City review.

c. Downtown Upper Floor Residential Project:

- i. Downtown Property short list and associated updates

n 544 Main Street: Truscello

Owner - Harteis: Possible sale of building. 2nd floor space (approx. 50'x150') & 3rd floor space (approx. 50'x100'). Recent building upgrades (\$20k for new roof)

n 139 Clinton Street: Carthew

Asset Planning Group Business - Asset Planning Associates, LLC. Franklin & Kim Banford have the property on the market. Gallagher to contact for update.

n 215-217 Market Street: Policicchio

Demolition permit has been issued. Ben Policicchio working with Khaled and developed plans to upgrade the second and third floors into apartments with current task to develop plans for the first floor retail areas.

n 209-211 Franklin Street: Policicchio

Johnstown Capital Partners does not own the buildings. GIS Map has Owner listed as: Devika Ramlagan, 19012 89th Ave., Hollis, NY.

7-26-23 Update: Ben Policicchio noted that he has developed plans for the entire structure with first floor retail and upper floor apartments. Khalid is interested and may take over the project.

n 132 Gazebo Place GAR Building: Gallagher

Development of new retail spaces on the first floor continues. Second floor planned for residential units to be developed in the future.

d Historic Survey Update: 6-28-23 Update: Ola completed the report, which includes three attachments: the final report itself, an Excel with building-by-building info, and a handful of pictures that were taken during the field surveying.

He will also have the UPJ print shop create physical copies of the old 1990s reports that can be used as reference. GIS maps are forthcoming. When they're done, he'll have them printed too as large size maps, one for each of the neighborhood.

e. Conceptual plan map for the Central Business District: Map Plan to be a base level for identifying overlays of development opportunities. The current CBD Map Plan has been sent to Alex Ashcom, Assistant City Manager for use with other city maps under development.

2. New Business:

a. New Projects/Updates by members and guests:

n Former Cambria Rowe building w/JRA & RCAP monies. Asbestos Survey and Abatement Contract development due to the presences of ACM.

n JRA continuing with Rosedale Access Road Project. JRA reviewing Quaker Sales Parcel.

- n Ludwig House completed the initial phase assisted by Keystone Historic Preservation grant. Application under review by City for Facade Grant Program. Submitting a CFfA \$7500 Grant match.

- n Johnstown Train Station - Burkert noted renovations developed and administered through the City's RAISE Program. Burkert reported that the environmental reviews will be completed by the end of the year. Then, RFP to be sent out for design professionals.

- n City's Plan for the Public Safety Building: Carthew reported that the JPC made a recommendation to have City Council and City administration seek a Building Assessment RFP to determine reuse of the City own building. JPC to tour the building with Police Captain Miller on 11/1.

- n Former Red Cross Building - Owner: Martella. Landis provided concept drawings and associated costs, which varied much higher from Owner's budget.

- n Gallery on Gazebo: Tenant Build-Out Project. Gallery on Gazebo has purchased the building (136, 138, 140 Gazebo Park) with plans to renovate the building to provide a new and enlarged Gallery spaces with a new space for Cricket Wireless (current tenant) and a new commercial retail/shop space. Currently working on a Capital Campaign to establish funding for the renovation project and Gallery programming.

- n Analysis of the city taxable real estate history and trend analysis to 2030. Eyer provided a review of the report he prepared. Eyer to have another meeting with Imhoff.

- n Johnstown Main Street & Central Park Project. With 2 public meetings to establish and approve Concept Alternatives, the design team moved forward with Final Design Plans and documents through April of 2024.

- n COJ received funding for an updated Comprehensive Plan. JPC to conduct meetings to identify ideas and specific plans and programs to be included. Coordinating a meeting with a DCDE planner for the Southwest Regional (PGH) office. Scheduled date forthcoming.

n VT25 to administer a Tree Grant to the City from the US Forest Industry (5 year program). \$650,000. 400 oak & fruit type trees with assistance of the WPA Conservancy.

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