

December 9, 2009 BRAG Board Meeting

Members Present—Jane Lommel, Larry Riggle, Kas Vargo, Karen Kryah, Ray Brinkmeyer, Mike Baldwin, Eileen Herr

- 1) **Conflict of Interest forms**—We need these signed and collected ASAP. Eileen will re-circulate with the minutes and collect at the next BRAG meeting.
- 2) **Redistricting changes in Lawrence Township**-- Jane drafted a letter to the School Board stating that BRAG does not support the proposed high school redistricting based on east/west boundaries as it would create racial and economic imbalance within the township. The letter was signed by attending board members. The Board also gave Eileen permission to have a table at the December 12th Holiday Farmer's Market to collect signatures on two petitions addressing redistricting concerns which were drafted by Lawrence Central's Performing Arts Association.
- 3) **Changes to the BRAG Board**--We voted unanimously to add Erik Vohs, Key Bank Branch Manager, to the BRAG Board to replace Blythe Potts who is going off the board at the year end. All Executive Committee officers were voted in for another 2 year term with Eileen replacing Ray as secretary.
- 4) **Advisory Committee** – We see this group meeting with the BRAG board once a year to help us brainstorm and strategize our goals. Larry suggested that this meeting be scheduled for Wednesday, January 20th. The following individuals have agreed to be on the Advisory Committee—Debbie Hyde, (Community Hospital Outreach), Donna Carr (Business Property Owner), Bill Mays (Mays Chemical), Dave Klinestiver (Lewis and Kappes Attorney). We discussed suggestions for other advisors and Larry will follow up with these individuals to determine their interest and availability.

The suggestion was made to include the names of all board members and advisors on BRAG letterhead.
- 5) **Pedestrian Access**—The committee met with David Sherman to discuss the first phase of the project and INSTEP was very impressed.
- 6) **Community Meeting January 13th**—The theme for this meeting will be “How can BRAG work with school systems to improve our area schools and enhance learning?” Dr. Tony Bennett, Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Dr. Concetta Raimondi, Superintendent of Lawrence Township, are our other guest speakers. Jane will moderate this meeting. We suggested that our guests be given 5-10 minutes each to talk and that the main part of the meeting be a question and answer session. All principals in the BRAG area are invited to set up a 6' booth/table display about their school. Karen will also have a table for Pedestrian Access.

Our next community meeting will be April 14th. We discussed having a party to celebrate our 5th year anniversary, but we decided instead to keep the April meeting informative and highlight our 5 year anniversary at the first 2010 Farmer's Market.
- 7) **Credit Card**-- We authorized Kas to purchase a credit card program and machine as an efficient, immediate way to collect donations at future events
- 8) **Treasurer's Report**—Our checking account balance is \$44,984. We have received a grant from LISC for \$26,500 to fund accounting needs, set-up, training, and maintenance of the Exact Target computer program, for board development assistance and establishing a Development Director position.

- 9) **Development Director Position**—Kas will draft a job description and pass on board members for our editing and suggestions.
- 10) **April 24th Beautification Day**-- We were not awarded additional money to continue the Median Plantings Project and there is some difference of opinion regarding the “success” of this planting. The median needs to be mowed once a year, preferably with a Bush Hog. Jane will get details regarding the proper mowing height.

Next Leaders Luncheon—January 20th, 11:30 AM at George’s. Guest speaker will be Gary Hentschel, CEO of Key Bank and BRAG resident.

Next meeting--Community Meeting on January 13th, at 7 PM at the Divine Savior Lutheran Church. Guest Speakers—Dr. Nikki Woodson, Assistant Superintendent of Washington Twp.

Dr. Concetta Raimondi, Superintendent of Lawrence Twp.

Dr. Tony Bennett, Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen Herr
BRAG Secretary