

**Vision Together 2025**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 10, 2023 – 2:00 p.m.**

Voting Board Members:

Rev. John Bayush	Mark Pasquerilla
Amy Bradley	Bill Polacek
Bob Eyer	Ed Sheehan
Mike Kane	Jeff Stopko (A)
Tim Leventry	Linda Thomson (A)
Sue Mann	

Advisory Board Members:

Amy Arcurio (A)  
Tom Chernisky  
Ethan Imhoff  
Mayor Frank Janakovic (A)  
Rev. Sylvia King (A)  
Melissa Komar

Guest: B.J. Smith

Staff: Rob Forcey  
Quan Britt

1. Call to Order

Mike Kane called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

2. Opening Prayer

Rev. John Bayush presented an opening prayer.

3. Consent Agenda – Approval of Minutes

September 12, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes to be approved

August 8, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes to be ratified

Mr. Kane asked if there were any questions, concerns or changes to the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 12, 2023.

MOTION: A motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 12, 2023 and to ratify minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 8, 2023.

4. Community Development Director Report Out – Quan Britt

Mr. Britt gave a brief update on Capture Team activities. A more detailed report was included in the meeting packet.

5. Executive Director Report Out – Rob Forcey

- Wheelchair Capture Team Event – October 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to bring attention to the health and safety of the wheelchair user. Laurel Medical Solutions will be onsite to wash and perform minor repairs.

Early Childhood Initiative Status – Sue Mann

Ms. Mann provided an update on the Early Childhood Initiative (ECI). A strategic plan will be implemented which will support children of Cambria and Somerset Counties, ages 0 to 8 years, with educational, health and social resources they need to succeed.

- The core group for this initiative is: 1889 Foundation, Community Foundation for the Alleghenies, Center for Population Health, Lee Initiatives, Vision Together 2025 and United Way of the Southern Alleghenies.

- A strategic plan has been developed as part of a survey assessment done by Bloom Planning.
- An Early Childhood Coordinator will be hired following an interview process with onboarding in December.
- The United Way will act as the backbone organization in overseeing the hiring and administration of the ECI Coordinator.
- An MOU was developed to establish the funding and framework for collaboration which is intended to result in the advancement and implementation of the Strategic Plan. Funding will be provided by 1889 Foundation, Community Foundation for the Alleghenies and Lee Initiatives.
- A future indicator of the success of this initiative will be if every child in third grade is reading at or above the third grade reading level.
- River Walls  
Mr. Forcey is working with Brad Clemenson on Act 35, Army Corps of Engineers' \$10M project for modification of river walls. A comprehensive feasibility study would have to be done for modification of flood control projects. Nothing is moving forward at this time.

#### UPJ Announcement – Mike Kane

Mr. Kane announced that UPJ will hold a press conference on October 13 on the opening of their center for advanced manufacturing, engineering, automation and training in downtown Johnstown – Pitt-Johnstown Future Works project.

- Goal is for first semester in 2025 with 30-40 fourth-year engineering students

#### Community Report-out

Next report-out is tentatively scheduled for early December.

#### Tree Grant

A \$659,300 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture was recently awarded to the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies to plant approximately 400 trees in the Johnstown area. A committee will be formed to determine planting locations.

#### Priority Goals/Metrics Update

A document was distributed listing the Seven Priority Goals and the metrics to be utilized as primary indicators of overall success for each.

This information will be provided at every Board meeting for relevant discussion.

#### 6. Treasurer's Report – Bob Eyer

##### 2023 Financials Review

Bob Eyer presented financial statements through September 30, 2023.

#### 7. City Manager Report Out – Ethan Imhoff

- Currently involved in budget negotiations.

- A workshop with County Commissioners will be scheduled toward the end of October to discuss the \$750,000 grant through the Home Program for a homeless shelter.

Sue Mann told the Board the Johnstown Housing Authority did not receive the HUD Planning Grant of \$500,000 which was to specifically look at the Coopersdale and Oakhurst communities. A debriefing meeting will be held with HUD to understand what is needed to reapply for the grant.

8. JRA Report Out – Melissa Komar

- JRA is working on the Ideal Market situation. Market Study shows a supermarket should be sustainable in downtown Johnstown.
- Cambria Rowe Project asbestos survey - \$113,000 for abatement.
- Three commercial buildings are set for demolition; one is the Duca Funeral Home site.

9. For the Good of the Order/New Items

Mark Pasquerilla reminded the Executive Committee of his email regarding U.S. Army Special Forces Retired Colonel Jeff Pounding's training program to provide area youth with civic engagement and leadership training. This item was discussed at the September Board meeting.

Sue Mann suggested the use of a Board Portal on Vision's website to help distribute information for review prior to the Board meetings.

Rev. John Bayush provided information on a program to sell Christmas Trees to raise funds to benefit both a national and a local organization for underprivileged children.

Cambria Regional Chamber will hold a forum with candidates for Judge of the Cambria County Court of Common Pleas on Friday, October 13.

Next Vision Board Meeting is scheduled for November 14.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct in the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned.