

BRATENAHL VILLAGE
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ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING
CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM

MAY 12, 2021
5:34 p.m.

KEITH BENJAMIN
GINA HUFFMAN, CHAIRPERSON
TOM McDONALD

LORRAINE J. KLODNICK, RDR, CRR

3

1 the opportunity to see the two versions of the
2 mission statement, purpose statement, at the last
3 I think committee of the whole meeting that we
4 had. If not, can I share my screen? If I can
17:36:57 5 share my screen, I can show it.
6 Am I allowed to do that, Diana, or the
7 administrator?
8 MS. FERNANDES: You can go ahead and
9 share your screen.
17:37:18 10 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. All right. Hold
11 on, everybody. Give me a moment.
12 MR. MCDONALD: You're trying to make me
13 feel good.
14 MS. HUFFMAN: All right. So these are
17:37:33 15 the two versions of the mission and the purpose
16 statement and, you know, as I stated, when I
17 first came onto the council and as time has gone
18 on, I have always felt like we needed some type
19 of representative committee and assistance from
17:38:03 20 community members to talk about things that
21 advance and evolve our community.
22 When I say advance and evolve our
23 community, of course, you know, we know that
24 maintenance of our community and properties and
17:38:19 25 buildings is a fact of life. We know taxes are

2

1 MS. HUFFMAN: Thanks, everybody. Thanks
2 for coming. We're going to bring this meeting to
3 order at approximately I think that's 5:34 p.m.
4 It is the first official Economic and
17:35:27 5 Community Development Committee Meeting with
6 myself, Gina Huffman, and my co-chair folks on
7 the committee, which are Keith Benjamin and
8 Tom McDonald, and we want to welcome everyone who
9 has taken some time out just to engage with us on
17:35:49 10 this first meeting, which I don't anticipate to
11 be very long.
12 We have a couple of items of business to
13 tend to. Thereafter, questions and inquiries
14 will be welcome and I guess we will go from
17:36:07 15 there.
16 I'll take the rollcall. So Keith
17 Benjamin?
18 MR. BENJAMIN: I am here.
19 MS. HUFFMAN: All right. Tom McDonald?
17:36:20 20 MR. MCDONALD: Here.
21 MS. HUFFMAN: And Gina Huffman is here.
22 So the first item on our agenda today is
23 a discussion about our final draft or our final
24 selection for our final mission and purpose
17:36:36 25 statement and perhaps some of you may have had

4

1 the things that support those efforts and if, you
2 know, I'm being very honest, you know, I
3 certainly don't want my taxes to skyrocket. I
4 want them to be at a certain pace where I can
17:38:38 5 live enjoyably in the community that I live in
6 and certainly things that help to offset that are
7 a help.
8 So bringing in revenue and some
9 different types of ways with what we have in the
17:38:51 10 village has always been something I've been
11 interested in. For that reason, I have always
12 promoted that I thought we should have an
13 economic and community development committee to
14 assess those type of things and certainly give
17:39:12 15 feedback from the community to figure out what we
16 can do to make sure that those things are met.
17 I'm sure that some of you have different
18 perspectives, but here is what I came up with
19 just to throw it out there. And I think it
17:39:31 20 certainly is up for debate and I've certainly
21 tried to include all the voices and the
22 stakeholders that would be probable to weigh in
23 on anything that happens in our community in
24 terms of identifying ways for us to generate
17:39:50 25 revenue and keep our taxes consistent or low or

1 maintained, and to keep our community beautiful,
 2 and for us to have a good standard of living.
 3 So here they are and I would just ask,
 4 you know, my committee co-chairs to weigh in on
 5 this, if you have some thoughts.
 6 MR. BENJAMIN: So I could kind of start.
 7 I think that to start with, both of these are
 8 very similar. I like the second one because I
 9 think it identifies community member experience
 10 first and, you know, for me and this particular
 11 committee, I see this -- this committee is kind
 12 of a place similar to like a CDC, a community
 13 development corporation; a way where we can
 14 maximize our partnerships with residents in the
 15 community, with not only the village itself, but
 16 also our nonprofit organizations like the
 17 Bratenahl Foundation and Bratenahl Blooms and all
 18 of the other organizations that serve Bratenahl.
 19 Some of the things that I think about
 20 when I'm thinking about our community is, you
 21 know, firstly in terms of community development,
 22 we talk a lot about generating synchronicity. So
 23 how can we generate synchronicity?
 24 I'll throw out an example. It doesn't
 25 mean we have to go there, but over the years
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1 we've talked about how can we maximize and
 2 benefit the use of space at the community center
 3 and now at Bratenahl Center. And we've talked
 4 about, you know, utilizing some of those spaces
 5 as offices, maybe as an incubator site for small
 6 businesses.
 7 Along those lines what would be great is
 8 to also focus on home-based businesses. I know
 9 we've got some people on the call on this meeting
 10 here today that have home-based businesses. How
 11 can we help nurture and grow those home-based
 12 businesses in the community?
 13 What are some of the programs that we
 14 can develop? What are some of our ordinances
 15 that we can enhance to support home-based
 16 businesses, and then hopefully they'll grow to
 17 the point where if one day we have an incubator
 18 or we have a business center at one of our
 19 buildings, that they move there first before they
 20 go to another community or another storefront.
 21 So how can we maximize those
 22 opportunities to increase our tax base and then
 23 to help our residents who have home-based
 24 businesses, is one.
 25 Secondly, I'll throw this one out there,
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1 then I'll let everybody else have a turn. What
 2 can we do to help current homeowners beautify
 3 their properties? So I gave one economic
 4 development example. Here's a community
 5 development example.
 6 So how can we better work -- you know,
 7 Lake Shore Boulevard kind of takes care of itself
 8 so that's not as much of an issue, but how can we
 9 work with residents in my neighborhood and Gina's
 10 neighborhood and also over off of East 140th
 11 Streets. How can we work with the homeowners to
 12 beautify those neighborhoods, identify things
 13 that we can do together, and to promote how the
 14 continued growth of housing values are a
 15 reinvestment in those streets and neighborhoods.
 16 MS. HUFFMAN: And for anybody that may
 17 not know, Councilperson Benjamin is very, very
 18 knowledgeable about economic and community
 19 development as a part of his entire like career
 20 experience and so we're lucky to have him give
 21 us, you know, guidance to help us to figure out
 22 how we want to prioritize the things that we can
 23 do to do both of those things economically and
 24 for the community.
 25 So thank you, Keith, for that and those
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1 examples.
 2 MR. BENJAMIN: There are a lot of things
 3 that touch on these issues that touch with other
 4 committees. The public works and improvement,
 5 obviously the future of those buildings and how
 6 we move forward lies in that committee.
 7 You know, we need to continue to push to
 8 get the marketing committee back and operating
 9 because promoting this community as a great place
 10 to live, well, our branding plays into that too
 11 as well as getting our gateway signs and all of
 12 that done hopefully sooner rather than later.
 13 MS. HUFFMAN: Well, I want to also add
 14 that, you know, a big part of some of these
 15 efforts on the economic side certainly take
 16 funding and so to have Tom McDonald on the
 17 committee is a plus because he is very
 18 knowledgeable about, you know, putting together
 19 funding.
 20 We know of some of his background, at
 21 least I've learned about some of his background,
 22 and he's been instrumental in playing a part with
 23 some of our healthcare systems on the west side.
 24 I am happy to have you on the committee because
 25 certainly you can give us some guidance to what
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1 we can do to entice community members and other
2 stakeholders and possibly funders about things
3 that they may want to help us with if they live
4 in the community or as part of our community.

17:46:14 5 So, Tom, certainly if you have anything
6 to add about the mission and the purpose, feel
7 free, and anything else that you want to add,
8 feel free to say.

9 MR. MCDONALD: I will agree with Keith,
17:46:29 10 that I like the second one better. He just
11 flushed the second one out. That's what you're
12 saying there. Our job is to bring those ideas,
13 which Keith just catalogued some, and we need to
14 put those before the community and get buy-in to

17:46:49 15 the best ideas or ranking for the best ideas or
16 whatever, how are we going to pay for it.

17 That will all become obvious as we
18 decide how much we need and how we get that is
19 always far from obvious, but obviously there are
17:47:14 20 ways to do that and whether we -- what we need to

21 do is, first of all, we need to do in a much more
22 ordered session, talk about some of the ideas
23 that Keith just threw out there and see how we
24 can make those things attractive and then have

17:47:37 25 town hall meetings and just get this out in front
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1 of the public.

2 MS. HUFFMAN: Well, I'm glad you said
3 that, Tom, because I do also agree that town hall
4 meetings or feedback from our community about the
17:47:54 5 list and how to prioritize a list of things that
6 we want to tackle is important, and so we don't
7 miss a mark.

8 The town hall meetings will be
9 beneficial in our efforts to move an agenda
17:48:12 10 forward for the rest of the council and for
11 community members to get behind and any other
12 stakeholders or supporters that want to help us
13 with, you know, what we feel we want to go
14 forward with. So thank you.

17:48:29 15 So it sounds like, you know, of the two
16 versions, the second one is the one that we most
17 like, but at this time I will take some time to
18 let the rest of those of you who are on this call
19 weigh in if you would like.

17:48:55 20 Anybody? Go for it.

21 MR. PUFFENBERGER: I'll just weigh in
22 very quickly. I couldn't agree more. The second
23 one, I think, is the better. I don't think I can
24 say anything more or any better than Keith and
17:49:10 25 Tom have; but the emphasis on community member

1 experience is really what struck me. That is the
2 most important aspect of what I think you're
3 trying to accomplish with this committee. And so
4 I'll just simply leave it at that. I would vote
17:49:27 5 for number 2 if I had to vote.

6 MS. HUFFMAN: Anyone else have any
7 comments about either --

8 MS. MEADE: Gina, this is Pat.

9 MS. HUFFMAN: Yes?

17:49:40 10 MS. MEADE: I guess what I read,
11 regardless of which one, because they're kind of
12 saying really the same things, it's just an
13 ordering treatment.

14 MS. HUFFMAN: That's correct.

17:49:46 15 MS. MEADE: It seems like you want to
16 identify ideas, opportunities that can make
17 things better for the community and funding
18 sources, but then you don't say you want to
19 complement them.

17:49:58 20 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay.

21 MS. MEADE: So I don't know if the
22 committee's role is to, one, to identify them and
23 look at funding sources to actually implement and
24 see them through, or if you are to defer them
17:50:14 25 back to council for implementation, or where that

1 missing piece is placed.

2 MS. HUFFMAN: Well, I would answer in
3 response that it is not a missing piece; it's a
4 committee and we put things forward to be decided
17:50:30 5 by the council as other committees do, so for
6 that reason, implementation is not in there.
7 That would be a council function to see that
8 through.

9 That would also include buy-in from the
17:50:49 10 finance committee and talking with them to help
11 us with those types of things before it even gets
12 to a full council vote.

13 So we're trying to just make this
14 committee be charged with doing exactly what you
17:51:04 15 said, Pat: Coming up with these ideas, including
16 the community in those discussions, having the
17 spirited debate so that we can tease out what is
18 really important, and moving forward with putting
19 that before the council and hopefully getting
17:51:20 20 buy-in by everyone in the community and others
21 who support it.

22 MS. MEADE: It seems like then you may
23 want to end it by saying and referring these
24 recommendations to council for consideration or
17:51:34 25 for approval or, you know, somehow tell what

1 you're going to do with the work that you're
2 creating within your committee.
3 MS. HUFFMAN: Well, that won't always be
4 the case, that we will refer them on to council.

17:51:48 5 So I don't want to go too far into or down a
6 rabbit hole. I want to concentrate on community
7 members and their input about this and send the
8 best ideas forward for them to navigate their way
9 to succeed. I'll take that in though. That is
17:52:22 10 not an issue.

11 MR. MCDONALD: I don't disagree with
12 you, Gina. I think that it's implicit in this
13 whole thing that we're not going to do this work
14 if we're not going to do it. So I think it's
17:52:33 15 implicit that we're going to do the work that
16 needs to be done so we can put together a program
17 that says we believe we need to do this, A, B, C,
18 and D, and here is how we need, or let's go to
19 council or wherever we want to go and say, how
17:52:50 20 can we do this, it's going to cost this much
21 money, it's going to take this kind of effort.

22 MS. MEADE: I just think there needs to
23 be some kind of next step that's built into your
24 mission and purpose so it doesn't just sit there
17:53:06 25 because I think that's been one of the issues in
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1 the past with the village and, again, not to hurt
2 anyone's feelings or to place blame anywhere, but
3 I think we can all remember ideas that have been
4 proposed for years and years and they've been
17:53:22 5 talked about and talked about, and they talked
6 about funding and they talked about doing it, but
7 nothing happens because there's no real next
8 step.

9 MS. HUFFMAN: Well, so to your point,
17:53:33 10 Pat, I've not been here that long, but what
11 you're echoing about ideas being talked about and
12 talked about? Well, guess what, we have a whole
13 committee dedicated to it now. So it's a first
14 step.

15 All of those things that people have
16 talked about and talked about, now it has a
17 committee that people can bring forth their ideas
18 in a formal way, it can be formalized now, it can
19 move through a process formally, and it can come
17:54:03 20 up for council's decision formally out of a
21 committee. And the things that don't make it
22 through, they don't make it through. Maybe they
23 need to be adjusted in some ways and certainly
24 for a mission or a purpose statement, they
17:54:22 25 evolve. They evolve.

1 This is the first of its kind, so I'm
2 going to trust the feedback of the co-chairs on
3 the missions and purpose statement and also
4 welcome, you know, feedback from the public
17:54:46 5 moving forward as to how we can make sure that
6 the things that you have identified are in the
7 forefront of what we're doing as we move along.

8 MR. PUFFENBERGER: Can I make a quick
9 comment, Gina?

17:55:05 10 MS. HUFFMAN: Sure.

11 MR. PUFFENBERGER: There is one piece
12 missing from this discussion, at least in my
13 view, and this in no way diminishes the
14 responsibility of this committee or all of
17:55:16 15 council, but we are a legislative body and we
16 need to understand that ultimately much of the
17 implementation does come under an administrative
18 responsibility, so we have to have administrative
19 buy-in as well. That ultimately is where things
17:55:32 20 get implemented.

21 And so that perhaps is a piece of this
22 we need to consider; perhaps not add to the
23 mission and purpose statement, but something we
24 need to consider.

17:55:43 25 MS. HUFFMAN: Absolutely. Absolutely.
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1 MR. BENJAMIN: I agree with what Jim
2 just said and also a lot of what Pat said. I
3 mean, there has been a lot of discussion, you
4 know, over the years since I've been here on
17:56:00 5 different projects and sometimes they get put on
6 the back burner and never get discussed again and
7 they're great ideas. At some point, you know, we
8 either need to commit to doing them or not.

9 The purpose of this committee, you know,
17:56:16 10 it is a committee of council and, you know, our
11 job is to sort out good ideas and make
12 recommendations to the full council and then
13 hopefully see the good ones through to
14 implementation.

17:56:33 15 MS. HUFFMAN: Yes.

16 MR. BENJAMIN: Whatever that is, whether
17 it's through administration or whether we can
18 bring a nonprofit to help us put an endeavor
19 together similar to the -- I can't think of the
17:56:52 20 fund now. What's the historic housing?
21 Cleveland Restoration Society fund.

22 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay.

23 MR. BENJAMIN: So we bring them on board
24 as a partner to work with the residents to help
17:57:05 25 in the historic renovation and restorations of

1 their homes. Well, what other organizations are
 2 out there in northeast Ohio that can help us,
 3 hopefully at minimal cost, do some of the ideas
 4 over the next several months, members of the
 17:57:23 5 community and council will be discussing.
 6 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. And hey, everybody,
 7 this is just the first meeting, so it's good
 8 dialogue and a good exchange to just kind of
 9 flush out as we shape what this committee is
 17:57:40 10 going to do or attempt to do. Certainly one of
 11 the highlights of the committee, in my opinion,
 12 is the community. Hopefully as we move about
 13 we'll have more participants from the community
 14 come and voice their opinions about the things
 17:57:56 15 that they do want to see and we can certainly be
 16 a driver for that.
 17 All right. So to that end, I would make
 18 a motion that we adopt the mission and purpose
 19 statement for the economic and community
 17:58:21 20 development committee that says, "The committee's
 21 charge is to identify suitable opportunities and
 22 endeavors that enhance the community member
 23 experience, introduce ECDC ideas for community
 24 debate, and pursue funding sources for these
 17:58:40 25 projects which benefit the Village of Bratenahl."
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1 If I can get a second on that motion?
 2 MR. MCDONALD: Second.
 3 MS. HUFFMAN: All in favor?
 4 MR. MCDONALD: Aye.
 17:58:56 5 MR. BENJAMIN: Aye.
 6 MS. HUFFMAN: Aye. All right. So that
 7 carries. Thank you, all.
 8 I'll go to the next item on our agenda,
 9 which is the process to select ad hoc committees
 17:59:03 10 and ambassadors and its functions. So I'm going
 11 to share my screen again. All right.
 12 So the process to select ad hoc
 13 committees or ad hoc ambassadors that vet
 14 community ideas; their term limit and
 17:59:34 15 responsibilities.
 16 That's kind of what my thinking was.
 17 Let me just give you all an overview of my
 18 thinking and of course this is up for discussion.
 19 We can think about this. This is nothing we have
 17:59:48 20 to solve tonight. This is nothing we have to do
 21 in its entirety. This is nothing that we have to
 22 do at all.
 23 I think that because there are so many
 24 ideas that have been brought to the larger
 18:00:09 25 community and some have gotten lost, and like
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1 Keith said and like Pat said, they've been really
 2 good ideas, perhaps we need an ad hoc committee
 3 to just collect the ideas that people have
 4 because many times ideas are similar by groups of
 18:00:30 5 people in the community. And so that you don't
 6 have to address each and every one idea, they
 7 probably are closely related in some cases by
 8 groups of people.
 9 For that reason, that's why I had this
 18:00:50 10 thought that we could have perhaps an ad hoc
 11 committee or ad hoc ambassadors, a person or
 12 people who talk to community members and say, you
 13 know, I've been talking to 20, 30, 40 people, we
 14 didn't know this, but people want to see this or
 18:01:14 15 people like that. Of course we can talk about
 16 those persons or committees having a specific
 17 timeframe that we do this and the
 18 responsibilities behind that.
 19 So your thoughts on that are welcome.
 18:01:31 20 Committee members, can you give some feedback on
 21 that or is this not a road that we should be
 22 travel right now?
 23 MR. BENJAMIN: Tom, did you want to go
 24 ahead?
 18:01:48 25 MR. MCDONALD: Go ahead.
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1 MR. BENJAMIN: Okay. I mean, I think
 2 that we may get to a point where we need to do
 3 that. I guess that before we divide things into
 4 silos, I would rather, since this is a new
 18:02:05 5 committee, use this committee to have some
 6 initial public outreach with residents and
 7 collect ideas and, you know, let's see where
 8 there's synergy and on what subjects and topics.
 9 Then we can kind of silo these ideas then after
 18:02:29 10 the ad hoc committees will come in, presidents
 11 and council working together on coming up with
 12 ideas on how to implement.
 13 MS. HUFFMAN: That sounds reasonable. I
 14 think sometimes what I find is that we start to
 18:02:46 15 as a community talk about one thing and there is
 16 a thought and someone may add something and then
 17 at the end of the meeting we have not addressed
 18 any of them.
 19 So your order, I take that in.
 18:03:04 20 Do you have anything to add, Tom?
 21 MR. MCDONALD: No, I totally agree with
 22 that. I think that this committee, as you've put
 23 it together, should be charged with looking at
 24 all of that stuff and wool gathering and thinking
 18:03:20 25 about what we need to be doing and then we can
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1 report that out for somebody else to act as a
2 sounding board with the community or we can be
3 that sounding board also.

18:03:37 4 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. I take that in. So
5 this is something that we can revisit certainly.

6 Any other comments about this from
7 anyone on the Zoom call?

8 We'll put this on the back burner and we
9 will proceed as discussed and we, as a committee,

18:03:58 10 we will vet those things and report back out and
11 thereafter, if necessary, we will silo those
12 things and allow those committees or ambassadors
13 if needed to be sounding boards for the short
14 list, if you will, of things that we want to

18:04:16 15 pursue.

16 MR. BENJAMIN: Yeah. And I also don't
17 want us to forget that, and Jim did kind of bring
18 this up a few minutes ago, as we form, you know,
19 committees with residents to explore ideas, let's

18:04:32 20 make sure that staff are also involved,
21 administrative side.

22 So there are some things that may be
23 feasible or not feasible that the village can do
24 and so we do need input from staff as well to

18:04:51 25 advise us on, you know, whether we can do some of
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1 this or not. We definitely want their buy-in and
2 participation.

3 MS. HUFFMAN: Absolutely. I agree.
4 Absolutely. Okay.

18:05:03 5 Well, onto the next piece of or the next
6 agenda item which is open forum. Committee
7 members, are there any things that you want to
8 bring to the forefront while we're here on the
9 call for this committee meeting that you want to
10 put forward?

11 MR. MCDONALD: No, I think we've covered
12 all of the important points here. Have you
13 thought about when we get together, how often we
14 get together, how we get together?

18:05:43 15 MS. HUFFMAN: That's a good question.
16 That's what I'm asking. That's a great question.
17 I'm not certain if or I don't have a good feeling
18 about if it should be a specific day of the week
19 each month or should it be as needed. I'm not
18:06:03 20 certain.

21 Do you have thoughts, Keith?

22 MR. BENJAMIN: I think that we should at
23 least plan on meeting monthly. There may be some
24 months where we don't meet for whatever reason,
18:06:17 25 but, you know, I think that our first order of

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1 business might be, and this could be the topic of
2 the next meeting, is really public outreach. How
3 do we want to set that up? How do we want to
4 collect ideas? Do we want to have a community
18:06:34 5 forum? You know, do we do sort of a world cafe
6 or a future search, which Bratenahl has been
7 through before many years ago, on just some of
8 these flushing out of ideas --

9 MS. HUFFMAN: Yes.

18:06:50 10 MR. BENJAMIN: -- and see what the top
11 five or ten are.

12 MS. HUFFMAN: Yeah.

13 MR. BENJAMIN: Just how do we go about
14 putting that all together. Do we have to do this
18:07:01 15 virtually? When do we want to do this? If in
16 two months we could all meet in person again,
17 that would be great. But we've got to kind of
18 flesh out those details.

19 MR. MCDONALD: I would suggest that we
18:07:17 20 have some homework and that we individually, not
21 collectively, but individually say, just put a
22 list down. What kind of projects are you
23 interested in? What kind of projects am I
24 interested in? What buildings or what areas in
18:07:32 25 the community do you think that we can make use

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1 of and make more better use of? And just submit
2 that to us and then we can talk about that
3 collectively at our next meeting. That gives us
4 an agenda for our next meeting.

18:07:49 5 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. Go ahead, Keith.

6 MR. BENJAMIN: To add to that too, we
7 talked about buildings, but let's not forget
8 about our parks and public spaces as well.

18:08:04 9 MR. MCDONALD: Sure. I didn't mean to
10 leave them out.

11 MR. BENJAMIN: I didn't mean to forget
12 that as well. I just wanted to make sure it was
13 reflected in the minutes.

14 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. So in the chat box,
18:08:15 15 I am putting my e-mail address and my phone
16 number in case anybody wants to share ideas that
17 they want in terms of an agenda item for our next
18 meeting. That's going to be homework --

19 MR. MCDONALD: Yep.

18:08:38 20 MS. HUFFMAN: -- for community members.

21 And I'm not certain, is it

22 KeithBenjamin@Bratenahl?

23 MR. BENJAMIN: I think it's KBenjamin.

24 MS. HUFFMAN: KBenjamin. So for

18:08:56 25 anyone --

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1 MS. FERNANDES: You have a typo in
 2 yours, Gina.
 3 MS. HUFFMAN: I do?
 4 MS. FERNANDES: Yeah. In Bratenahl,
 5 you're missing the L.
 6 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. Thank you.
 7 So for anyone who wants to send us an
 8 idea that you want discussed at our next meeting,
 9 you can send it to us for us to do homework. And
 10 I'm sure that each committee member may have
 11 homework as well.
 12 Tom, what's yours?
 13 MR. MCDONALD: T M C D O N 9603 --
 14 MS. HUFFMAN: That's your Bratenahl one?
 15 MR. MCDONALD: It's also my Gmail
 16 account.
 17 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. T M C D O N --
 18 MR. MCDONALD: TMcDon9603@gmail.com
 19 MS. HUFFMAN: 9603?
 20 MR. MCDONALD: Correct.
 21 MS. HUFFMAN: All right. So for any of
 22 you who are on the call who want to get in touch
 23 with us, send us things that you'd like discussed
 24 at our next meeting, it's been suggested, and I
 25 take it in, we can do that. We can have a
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1 monthly meeting.
 2 Our homework as committee members is to
 3 figure out, like you said, Keith, how we want to
 4 go about our business of our meetings, whether
 5 it's going to be in person, whether it's going to
 6 be virtual, what's the process for public
 7 engagement, and collecting community ideas.
 8 You had one more, Keith. You said
 9 something about cafes?
 10 MR. BENJAMIN: Yeah, in terms of
 11 outreach and generation of ideas. What kind of
 12 outreach, what does it look like in terms of, you
 13 know, do we do world cafes?
 14 MS. HUFFMAN: Oh, okay.
 15 MR. BENJAMIN: Do we do a survey? What
 16 kind of qualitative and quantitative? Do we want
 17 to get that deep into it or do we just want to
 18 sort of have a design charrette day where
 19 residents submit ideas, or do we do this via
 20 e-mail? All of that.
 21 MS. HUFFMAN: Okay. All right.
 22 Anyone from the public have any feedback
 23 or comments?
 24 MS. BURKE-JONES: Good meeting. I think
 25 it's exciting that we have this committee. It
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1 looks like we're on the way to being able to do
 2 some things that have been long awaited in this
 3 community. Thank you very much to all committee
 4 members.
 5 MS. HUFFMAN: Thank you, Joyce.
 6 Anyone else? All right. Well, I can
 7 tell you for the next meeting, whenever we kind
 8 of set a date, something that Keith said that I
 9 think I want to work on and I'll just share with
 10 you all, as we've discussed so many times, the
 11 average, our average age of residents is the
 12 upper 50s if not older, right?
 13 So what can we do to help community
 14 members continue to beautify their properties?
 15 Maybe it gets difficult to do that, so I'll work
 16 on some ideas for that. I think that would be
 17 something I'd like to work on and talk about
 18 during the next meeting.
 19 I know at one point in time, and it sort
 20 of kind of died, but maybe I'll try to revive it,
 21 I was talking about some type of paint program.
 22 So I'll do some homework on that. That's my
 23 homework, Tom. I'm going to do that homework.
 24 MR. MCDONALD: All right.
 25 MS. HUFFMAN: All right. Anyone else
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1 before we adjourn?
 2 MR. PUFFENBERGER: Just to piggyback on
 3 what you just said, Gina. Not only is our
 4 population in the upper ranges of 50s or lower
 5 ranges of 60, but our housing stock is also
 6 older. That's something we really need to take a
 7 look at. Heritage home program has had some
 8 impact. Perhaps marketing that better, that sort
 9 of a thing, could be considered.
 10 MS. HUFFMAN: Very good.
 11 On the economic side, I'll share with
 12 you my homework that I'm going to do, hopefully
 13 that I can have a chance to discuss at a
 14 subsequent economic and community development
 15 meeting, revolves around a Bratenahl Center,
 16 right? So there's been a lot of discussion about
 17 what to do with the building. Certainly there's
 18 a whole other side to that.
 19 Like Keith said, you know, what do we do
 20 with the space in the building? First we have to
 21 determine how much space, you know, and what our
 22 needs are, but certainly I think there is an
 23 opportunity to at least explore some development
 24 on that property by an outside developer. I'd
 25 like to explore that.
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1 So I'll bring back what I come up with.
 2 Go ahead, Joyce.
 3 MS. BURKE-JONES: I think that's great
 4 because we've already studied, Doty Miller did it
 5 for us, you've identified a number of square
 6 footage that the community needs for community
 7 activities and it wasn't the entirety of that
 8 building, so there's additional square footage
 9 there that is not needed for particular programs
 10 that we have today, but possibly other uses could
 11 be made for it or reconfigurations of that
 12 building can be done.
 13 MS. HUFFMAN: Anyone else? All right.
 14 Well, I have one more comment. You
 15 know, to circle back to at least what I was
 16 talking about at the beginning is that, you know,
 17 ways to generate revenue are important and
 18 hopefully this committee can bring some of those
 19 things to the forefront for our community,
 20 administration, and for the committee members to
 21 consider. Hopefully this will be something
 22 that's good and we'll be on our way.
 23 MR. BENJAMIN: Sounds good.
 24 MR. MCDONALD: Very good.
 25 MR. BENJAMIN: Thank you for your
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1 advocacy of this and getting this committee off
 2 the ground.
 3 MS. HUFFMAN: All right. So with that,
 4 if anyone doesn't have anything else, we can
 5 adjourn this meeting at 6:16 p.m.
 6 I make a motion we adjourn the meeting
 7 at 6:16 p.m. Can I have a second?
 8 MR. MCDONALD: Second.
 9 MS. HUFFMAN: All in favor?
 10 MR. MCDONALD: Aye.
 11 MR. BENJAMIN: Aye.
 12 (Zoom meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.)
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1 CERTIFICATE
 2
 3
 4 I, Lorraine J. Klodnick, do hereby certify
 5 that as such Reporter I took down in Stenotypy all
 6 of the proceedings had in the foregoing transcript;
 7 that I have transcribed my said Stenotype notes
 8 into typewritten form as appears in the foregoing
 9 transcript; that said transcript is the complete
 10 form of the proceedings had in said cause and
 11 constitutes a true and correct transcript therein.
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 15 *Lorraine J. Klodnick*
 16 Lorraine J. Klodnick, RDR, CRR
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