

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday February 13, 2007

In attendance were: Randy Sharbuno, Don Cosentine, Roger Strohm, Randy Tetzlaff, Mike Erlich, Joe Janson, Marcia Trotchie, Sue Orvis and special guest John Bauer (member of PW City Economic Committee)

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

Minutes from last meeting were approved

John Bauer sells industrial/commercial real estate. He shared some of the following thoughts with us:

- Manufacturing growth has been very slow in last few years.
- Businesses doing well are more niche businesses that do not need to farm work out to China.
- Smaller companies doing better than the larger companies
- Retail doing great vs. industrial markets
- The most popular size building used for manufacturing is 10,000-20,000 sq feet.
 - Need two acres at least to facilitate the size.
- Workforce is definitely an issue
 - Companies say they can't find workers here and their current workers don't want to move here (higher costs).

What could/should city government be doing to attract businesses?

- Saukville has a separate CDA to promote their industrial park
- Are we posting on 'Milwaukee seven' what is available in port?
Office and industrial- not retail

What type of workers do we want to attract?? If manufacturing is the thing of the past, why try to attract a workforce meant to fill manufacturing jobs? Should we be attracting higher skilled level people?

How do we attract people to live here?? (The \$64,000.00 question)

- We all believe that our biggest asset is the lake. We need to promote tourism and activities to draw people to the lake. A healthy community will attract people.
- City wide wireless internet??

It was recommended that we look at the Milwaukee Seven website which can be found at ChooseMilwaukee.com

Also look at the City of Port Washington website. There is a video that showcases our community.

HOMEWORK: FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Please email to Randy Tetzlaff before our next meeting
Compose a list of the city's strengths and weaknesses in the following topics
PW business strengths
PW business weaknesses
Businesses to attract in the city of Port Washington

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm

Our next meeting will be held on March 13th at 6:30pm

Our goal is to bring some closure to the Economic Development topic.