A publication of the Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership, Inc.



MOSHANNON VALLEY PROGRESS

21 Issue 1 Spring Issue—May 2022 Volume



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A Message from the **Executive Director**



On Tuesday, April 12th, I personally went to M&T Bank to deposit two land sale proceeds checks totaling almost \$300,000.00.

The MVEDP recently closed on the sale of our Philipsburg Area Commerce Park (former hospital site) land to Graystone Philipsburg, and we also sold the last lot in the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park to Don Heaney of DFH Real Estate, LLC.

It was a very bittersweet moment for me to deposit those checks and to know that the MVEDP is now officially without land to sell to businesses that will retain and create new jobs for folks in this area. The MVEDP has been working for a number of years to find another site to develop into a business park. We made offers to two different land owners but our efforts have not been productive to date.

On March 16th, I had the good fortune of attending a meeting of the GEO Group Community Relations Committee. The Clearfield County Commissioners are represented,

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All Property in the "Field of **Dreams" Now Officially Sold**

The MVEDP recently sold Lot #11 in the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park to Don Heaney of DFH Real Estate, LLC. MVEDP staff were surprised to have three offers on that lot during the month of March. All of the lots in the Business Park have now been sold.

The Business Park was once called the "Field of Dreams." The area resident that wrote the Letter to the Editor calling it that believed that this new site would provide no benefit to the area. The Park was developed in 2000/2001, and officially opened in July 2001. There were originally fourteen (14) lots, but two were subdivided making a total of 16 lots that were sold to businesses.



Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park "Field of Dreams"

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Field of Dreams Contined from Page 1

It was in 1998 when the MVEDP staff and board of directors began to explore the potential development of a business park to serve this region. To accomplish economic development, an organization like the MVEDP must have the tools to offer businesses and those include building space, financing, and land.



Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park

Executive Director's Message Continued from Page 1

Mayor John Streno of Philipsburg Borough, numerous law enforcement officials, and leaders from other areas of the region are also members of the committee. One theme stands out when listening to the GEO leadership: GEO wants nothing more than to operate an immigration processing center that is in full compliance with federal ICE requirements. Numerous federal officials work at the GEO facility on a daily basis. Warden Leonard Oddo and his team deserve a great deal of credit for the work that they do to ensure that the local GEO facility is managed in compliance with all requirements.

On another very different note, two of our staff members have had surgery within the past few months: Sharon and Sherrie. I want to publicly recognize and thank these long-term employees for their work to keep the MVEDP office running smoothly.



Diamondback

PMG Pennsylvania



Advanced Powder Products

Organic Climbing

State PIDA Office Releases New Interest Rates

The Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA)has released the second-quarter interest rates for their loan program. The MVEDP is certified to help companies throughout Centre County and the Moshannon Valley region with state PIDA loans.

Land and Building (Real Estate)

For term loans with a regular amortization;

- 15-year fixed interest rate is 2.50%
- 7-year fixed interest rate is 1.50%, a 2% increase can occur after year 7

For 10-year term loans with a 20-year amortization period;

- 10-year fixed interest rate is 2.50%
- 5-year fixed interest rate is 1.50%

Equipment

• 2.50% fixed rate for the full term of the loan

Working Capital

• 2.50% fixed rate for 12 month period

Pollution Prevention and Energy Efficiency Loans

• 2.00% fixed rate for the full term of the loan

Contact the MVEDP office if you are interested in exploring a PIDA loan for your business.

Pennsylvania Small Business Week May 1-7, 2022

National Small Business Week celebrates the critical contributions of entrepreneurs and small business owners across the country. With more than half of Americans owning or working for a small business, its something that significantly impacts the national economy and millions of people in the U.S.

To coincide with National Small Business Week, Governor Tom Wolf has proclaimed

Congratulations State Rep. Scott Conklin - Funding for MVEMS Project

A huge amount of praise and thanks to State Representative Scott Conklin for his work to secure state funding for the proposed Moshannon Valley Emergency Medical Services ambulance building. Scott was able to work with state government and Governor Tom Wolf to line up a \$1.0 million grant for the project. Funds will be available through the state budget office which manages the Redevelopment and Capital Assistance Program (RACP).

Wes Cartwright has been leading the charge for MVEMS to develop this project. MVEMS previously purchased 2.3 acres of the MVEDP's Philipsburg Area Commerce Park land for the new ambulance headquarters building. The building has been engineered and now the funding is being lined up for the project.

The project would not be possible without the RACP funding. Thank you State Representative Scott Conklin for all your work to ensure that this funding would be approved for the MVEMS project.

The MVEDP has been a partner to MVEMS throughout their project development efforts. Multiple grant applications and preapplications have been prepared and submitted on behalf of MVEMS. The MVEDP will do whatever it takes to assist MVEMS in getting this project to the finish line in 2024.

May 1-7, 2022 as Pennsylvania Small Business Week. The state is joining in the celebration to showcase the impactful role small businesses play in the Keystone State's economy and in our communities.

The Partnership wishes to recognize the small businesses located throughout the Moshannon Valley region. Our small businesses contribute to the culture and fabric of our communities here. They provide a sense of place and a local identity in addition to the economic benefit that they provide.

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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

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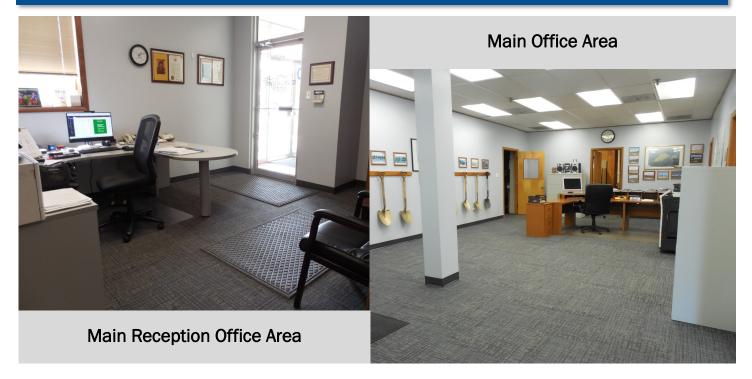
Preschool, and Mental Health Services in Centre County!

www.cenclear.org



www.wassonins.com

MVEDP Completes Office Renovation Project



The MVEDP office continues to be located in the former General Cigar building, now the Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center. For the first time in over 30 years, the office has been remodeled with new carpet, wall paint and baseboard trim. The office looks very professional and much more modern that it did before. Carpet One installed the new carpet and did a great job. New electronic equipment has been added which will allow for on-line streaming of the MVEDP's board of directors meetings.



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MVEDP Searching for Land to Develop Into a Business Park

A key priority of the MVEDP at this time is to find a site that can be developed into a business park. We believe that the site must be near the Route 322 corridor. The key issue is the location and making sure that it is marketable to the business community. A number of the businesses located in the Regional Business Park are owned by people who have a connection to the State College/Happy Valley area. We believe that the Philipsburg area's close proximity to that area of Centre County makes it imperative to find a site near Route 322.

The MVEDP's site search has not been an easy task. The presence of swamps, wetlands, State Game Lands, and the distances away from sewer and water services make the search a difficult one.

The MVEDP's staff and board of directors have identified a few sites that might have development potential. Work will continue on the effort to find the right site for future land development. Once a site is found and a purchase completed, the MVEDP will then work to develop the site into a business park complete with paved road, subdivided lots, water and sewer services, and stormwater management.

MVEDP Has Low-Cost \$\$ to Lend

The MVEDP's Revolving Loan Fund program has been available to local businesses since 1988. The matching loan funding can be used for working capital, machinery and equipment or land and buildings. The interest rate is as low as 3%! One of the most outstanding features of the loan program is the quick turnaround time. Once a reviewable application is received, the loan committee will meet and if the loan is approved, the money provided to the borrower in less than 30 days. Contact the MVEDP at 342-2260 if you have a business seeking matching loan financing.

MVEDP Board of Directors FY 2022

Bryan Bennett President **Dustin Minarchick** 1st Vice President Vice President Wanda Ryen Karen Blair Vice President Laura Koshko Treasurer Jim Pollock **Assistant Treasurer** Steve Lyncha **Board Member** Jeff Herr **Board Member** Bill Jones **Board Member** Dr. Robert Steward, Jr. **Board Member** John Shimko **Board Member Board Member** Gene Wardo Rusty Christoff **Board Member** Josiah Jones **Board Member** Joe Kelly **Board Member**

MVEDP Now Has an Open Board Seat

There is a seat open on the board of directors of the MVEDP. Joe Kelly of Mid Penn Bank recently informed the staff and board that he has taken a new job with a bank located in another area of PA. He resigned his seat on the board.

The MVEDP is now seeking candidates to fill that seat on the board. It is the board of directors that will make the decision about that seat. The MVEDP's board meets the third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested in serving on the board should contact the staff at 814-342-2260. The open seat will be discussed by the board at their May 17th meeting.

Welcome New Members

Drucker Diagnostics

200 Shady Lane, Suite 170 Philipsburg, PA 16866 814-342-6205

Contact: Deborah Harzinski

Penn Terra Engineering, Inc.

3075 Enterprise Drive State College, PA 16801 814-231-8285

Contact: John Sepp

ShipItDone

405 W. Presqueisle Street Philipsburg, PA 16866 814-258-4988

Contact: Marshall Taplits

Thank You Members!

The Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership thanks you for your support of our economic & community development efforts!

Renewals 1st Quarter

American Roofing, Inc.
Cen-Clear Child Services
Central PA Community Action
Centre Foundation
Chamber of Business & Industry Centre County
David Reid, Inc.
Front & Centre Productions, Inc.
Geo Tech Engineering, Inc.
Hager Utility Contractors

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WEDNet Training Funding Available

State funding is available to companies that have employees that need training. Created by the PA Department of Community & Economic Development and made available through the Workforce and Economic Development Network of Pennsylvania – WEDnetPA- is a program that provides qualified employers training funds for new and existing employees.

Funding can be used for a wide range of incumbent worker training. The training must be skill-building for the employee's current job, or for an advancement or promotion. Up to \$2,000 per employee can be available to the employer. Employees to be trained must be full-time employees. The training must occur in the same fiscal year of the funding award, between July 1 and June 30.

For further information about the WEDNet training funding, check out the program web site at: http://www.wednetpa.com.

MVEDP's 32nd Annual Luncheon Event is Scheduled

The MVEDP will hold its 32nd annual luncheon event on Friday, May 27th at 11:30 a.m. The event will be held at the Cen Clear facility located adjacent to True Value Hardware store along Rt. 322 just west of Philipsburg. The MVEDP has not held an annual event for three years now due to the COVID 19 virus. The last event was held on April 27, 2019. At that event, the MVEDP recognized the Philipsburg Historical Society. Organic Climbing, Inc., owned by Josh Helke, was also honored as the Small Business of the Year.

Thank You

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Houtzdale Heating & Air

JAWCo Fire

Leadership Centre County

Lezzer Lumber Company

M&T Bank

Moshannon Valley EMS

Nittany Office Equipment, Inc.

Penelec, A First Energy Company

Penn Highlands Clearfield

Philipsburg Borough

PMG Pennsylvania

PolyK Technologies, LLC

Providence Engineering, Corp.

Ryen Realty

Samuel J. Lansberry, Inc.

The GEO Group

Truss Tech, Inc.

Wasson Insurance Agency, Inc.

Windy Hill Village of the Presbyterian Home



Chamber Member Benefits

- ChamberChoice:
 - -Group Health Insurance -Dental
 - -Life/Disability Insurance -Vision
- OnDemand Energy Solutions:
 - -Electric Savings Program
- Free listing in our online business directory
- Invitation to all MVEDP events
- Email blasts to chamber members.
- E-communications concerning:
 - -Seminars
 - -Training opportunities
 - -Export opportunities
 - -Funding opportunities
- Voting rights for MVEDP board of directors
- Quarterly newsletter which provides information about potential new business opportunities
- Free advertising in the MVEDP's newsletter
- Sponsorship opportunities which is inexpensive advertising
- The benefit of the MVEDP's work to lobby for probusiness causes
- The benefit of the MVEDP's business connections to state and federal agencies