

SPECIAL SESSION

July 10, 2010

A special joint meeting was held between the Dunlap Business Association and the Dunlap Village Board of trustees at 8:00 a.m. at the Dunlap Fire Station. Village President Jack Fennell was present. Trustees present—Sheila Taylor, Jack Esterdahl and Colleen Slane. Also present were Village Clerk Fraser Engerman and Village Treasurer Dwight Johnson.

Colleen Slane provided a recap of the Community Comparison Committee's recent visit to Rochester, IL. The Village of Rochester is similar to Dunlap in many respects. It has a population of 3,400 with low crime and excellent schools. The Village has a full-time city manager and four public works employees. Rochester officials told the group attracting business has been difficult and development has not been contiguous. Rochester is well-served by a wide group of community volunteers who help run several community events throughout the year.

Rochester has two well-developed parks and a regional sewage plant. There are about 100 registered businesses in the village with three eateries. The village has a full time police force of seven officers and a volunteer fire department.

The committee heard from business owners that there is little communication between the village board and the business community. Much of the contact is with the zoning and planning commissions.

Recommendations for Dunlap:

1. Hire a part-time clerical position for the village.
2. Keep moving forward with parks development and consider a playground at North Park as well as connect the Rock Island Trail with the village.
3. Create an annual spring clean-up (in-progress) and improve communication for village events.
4. Make Dunlap a tourist destination.

John Parks reported the Marketing Committee is recommending development of a single website for the village. The committee has put together a prototype of what the site would look like. The website should be easy to navigate and leave a good first impression.

Sheila Taylor reported the Community Events Committee has developed a mission statement: Build bridges using varied resources in order to build community activities for all ages in Dunlap.

A questionnaire is being developed to be sent to all residents seeking more input. A survey will also be handed out at Dunlap Days. The next meeting of the Community Events Committee is July 21 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

The next special meeting will be held Saturday, September 11 at 8.am.

Dated-July 14, 2010

Fraser Engerman, Village Clerk