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## Community will embrace change as 2020 approaches

By *Don Brennan* on December 3, 2008

Close your eyes. Imagine what Millersville will be like in the year 2020.

Students are respecting and working with members of the community in several areas.

They are helping the community plan large scale social and cultural events in order to make the community a cultural hub.

They are working together in Green initiatives to help make the neighborhood more appealing and eco-friendly.

There is a new business district full of small community stores, artist galleries, and hangouts where both students and community members gather to greet each other.

Through all of this, the community is fostering the idea of lifelong living, learning, growing, and a community of neighbors.

Sounds like a utopia but this is the vision that a group of community members and students voted on as their vision for Millersville in the year 2020 at a Vision 20/20 Meeting on Monday, Nov. 24, at 7 p.m.

The Borough offices filled with approximately 25 people who wanted to hear what the new Vision Statement for Millersville might be.

The group was filled with Millersville Borough council members, community members, business members, and students who unanimously voted on the new vision statement that would be presented to the Borough Council at their meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 25.

The new vision statement stresses the importance of the picturesque and rural landscape of the community and the emphasis on diversity, civic engagement and education that exists within the community.

The statement puts forth that Millersville will realize its potential as a vibrant community and thriving college town by creating a friendly business environment, becoming a more cultural area, and enhancing educational, cultural, spiritual, and recreational activities.

What is the process of visioning?

“Visioning was a joint process between the community, business, the university, local school districts, the ministerium, and other non-profit volunteer organizations,” said Scott Bailey, president of the Millersville Borough Council. “When we began this process; we didn’t have an issue like other places that begin the visioning

process. We are working ahead of the curve.”

The new vision statement passed with a unanimous vote of the Borough Council at their meeting.

“This process has been laborious at times. I am hoping at the next time meeting to begin to work to make these changes a reality” said Marilyn Sachs, Borough Council Member.

What is the next step now that Millersville has a vision statement?

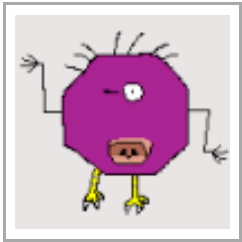
The next step that was discussed at the Vision 20/20 meeting was action. It is now time to form committees and begin to make an action plan.

The Vision 20/20 committee will begin to set goals and make timelines as to how to make this utopian vision of Millersville a reality.

These committees will include: Organizational Development, Physical Improvements, Asset Development & Enhancement, Community Marketing, and Safe, Clean, & Green.

The group will meet again to begin to set these goals and timelines sometime in December or January.

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