

DAUPHIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

January 5, 2009

The regular monthly meeting of the Dauphin County Planning Commission was held Monday, January 5, 2009 in the Commission's Second Floor Conference Room of the Dauphin County Veteran's Office Building, Harrisburg, PA. Mr. Tunnell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were: Mr. Tom Clark Mr. Paul Clark, Mr. Kerschner, Mr. Lenker, Mr. Memmi, Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Tunnell. Also present were Messrs. Szymborski and Reardon and Ms. Park of the staff.

REORGANIZATION

On a motion by Mr. Lenker, seconded by Mr. Tom Clark a nomination was made to retain the current slate of officers. On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Lenker, the nominations were closed and the current slate of officers retained.

MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Tom Clark, the Commission approved the minutes of the December 1, 2008 meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS AND BILLS

1. Communications
 - Mr. Szymborski indicated he has been in contact with PA DCED concerning work on the Appalachian Trail initiative to implement the recent single purpose legislation. In Dauphin County six municipalities are impacted by the initiative; East Hanover, Halifax, Middle Paxton, Reed, Rush and Wayne Townships. Staff will be meeting with the consultant Wallace, Roberts and Todd, to discuss the approach to be taken for implementation. There will be coordination with the Valleys Regional Comprehensive Plan development as four of the six municipalities are in the process of preparing a joint plan.
 - Mr. Szymborski will be attending a Planning Directors retreat at Camp Hebron on 1/27 and 1/28. The function is in cooperation with the Dauphin County Conservation District.
 - Staff will be applying for a grant for Millersburg Borough for the development of a municipal zoning ordinance. Attempts for a joint ordinance with Upper

Paxton Township were not successful. PA DCED indicated that funding may still be available despite the project being a single municipality.

2. Payment of Expenses

On a motion by Mr. Kerschner, seconded by Mr. Lenker, the Commission approved transfer of funds for the following expenses:

- a. To TCRPC for December Subdivision Fees:
Transfer..... \$3,284.71

REPORTS

1. Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Shaffer, the Treasurer's Report in the form of a Financial Statement for the month ending December 31, 2008 was accepted for filing and audit. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

(At this point Chairman Tunnell deviated from the agenda to allow additional staff presentations to be made due to other meetings later in the evening – item b. under New Business was addressed)

B. Zoning Amendment Reviews

1. West Hanover Township – Text Amendments – Provisions for Work Release Facilities and Farm Animals

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Tom Clark, the Commission voted to support staff comments which recommended approval of the proposed work release facility if a conditional use is established rather than a permitted use. In addition the commission supported the ordinance change in specificity of animal types.

2. West Hanover Township – Map Amendment – Rezone four parcels (approximately 58 acres) east of Route 39 and between Rutherford lane and Rider Lane, from Suburban Residential to Neighborhood Commercial.

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Kerschner, the Commission recommended to support staff comments which call for the approved rezoning of two of the parcels and disapproval of the proposed rezoning on the remaining two parcels.

(At this point in the meeting, Chairman Tunnell returned to item a. under Unfinished Business on the agenda)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Progress: Regional Transportation Planning Project, 2007-2008.

- Mr. Szymborski indicated the staff has received two Smart Transportation Initiative applications from Cumberland County, but giving consideration to the deadline extension was awaiting additional applications including and application for the Lemoyne Connector drafted by the Modern Transit Partnership and sponsored by Cumberland County.
- New plans for the 5th Street/University Drive project have been resubmitted to the Department for consideration. The new cost, despite the project's "right-sizing" to the possible point of its integrity being impacted, is now at \$7.1M.
- A Planning and NEPA conference is being held on January 26th at the Riverfront Office Complex. Ms. Myers-Krug and Mr. Ames will participate in the conference.
- Drew Ames has been asked to present at a workshop for Conservation and Transportation on January 28th.
- The Commission recently held a transit roundtable at HACC which discussed transit in our region. Kirk Stoner, Cumberland County planning Director has requested our assistance in preparing a transit workshop to discuss transit opportunities in the eight-county southcentral region. Staff is intent on coordinating the current CAT Service Study with any activities planned in our region. The next CAT study meeting will be January 8th at which time the Cumberland County request will be addressed.
- HATS will hold its next round of meetings on February 13th and 27th. The 2009 – 2010 work program will be on the agenda, although no direction on issues has been received from the Department.
- Staff was asked to coordinate a list of projects that could be fast tracked if an economic stimulus package was passed early in the new administration. The recent listing prepared by the district contained only one Dauphin County project for consideration (Rt. 39 widening). Mr. Tunnell indicated it may be a good time to revisit the prioritization of our local structurally deficient bridges, although Mr. Memmi indicated the local municipalities are expected to fund and prepare the project up to construction.

B. Local Planning Assistance Report.

The Local Planning Assistance report for the month of December was distributed to those members present. A copy is attached to the file copy of these minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Subdivision/Land Development Matters

1. Review /Comment

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, seconded by Mr. Tom Clark, a motion was passed to ratify the reviews of the 19 plan applications listed and attached to the file copy of these minutes. It should be noted; Mr. Tom Clark abstained from plans #2009-007, 008, and 009, while Mr. Memmi abstained from plans #2008-164, 165, and #2009-010.

C. Millersburg Open Space and Recreation Plan

On a motion by Mr. Paul Clark, with a second by Mr. Kerschner and Mr. Shaffer abstaining, the commission voted 6-0-1 to approve staff comments concerning the plan review.

D. 2009 Dauphin County Planning Commission dates

Mr. Szymborski distributed the dates of the 2009 meetings to the members.

E. Sewage Module Review

On a motion by Mr. Lenker, seconded by Mr. Paul Clark, the Commission ratified the review of Sewage Modules # 2009-001 through 003.

F. Dauphin County Park, Recreation, Greenway and Open Space Plan

Mr. Szymborski indicated the public comment period for the project is wrapping up. All comments received will be brought to the February Commission meeting for consideration. A public hearing will need to be held by the County Commissioners before adoption. Mr. Paul Clark indicated the presentation made in Derry Twp was thorough and well done.

There was some discussion on Appalachian Trail issues brought to the attention of the study committee at a public meeting.

G. Dauphin County Planning Commission 2009 Work Program

On a motion by Mr. Tom Clark, seconded by Mr. Kerschner, the Commission acted to approve the proposed county planning work program for the year 2009.

H. Dauphin County LPA Agreements

On a motion by Mr. Tom Clark, seconded by Mr. Shaffer, the Commission agreed to enter into a Local Planning Assistance agreement with the following municipalities:

Highspire Borough
Middletown Borough
Lower Swatara Township
Steelton Borough

Lykens Township
Penbrook Borough (on-call)
South Hanover Township
Washington Township

The motion included a thank you to the Dauphin County Commissioners for their continued support of the Local Planning Assistance Program.

I. Other Business

Mr. Szymborski indicated the Commission's annual dinner will be held at Dukes Restaurant in Wormleysburg on January 22, 2009. All members of the planning commission are invited. A notice will be sent to each member soon.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Shaffer, seconded by Mr. Lenker, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for **4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2009** in the Commission's Second Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Sedesse
Secretary