

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
FULL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

January 24, 2008

The organizational meeting and dinner was held on January 24, 2008 at the Marysville VFW – in Rye Township, Perry County PA. The business meeting was preceded by a social period.

ROLL CALL

Commission members present were Chairman Lenker, Secretary Clark, Treasurer Turner, Ms. Best, Ms. Brunner, Mr. Bullock, Mr. Carney, Dauphin County Commissioner DiFrancesco, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Epley, Mr. Graupensperger, Mr. Kerschner, Mr. Leppo, Mr. McCallin, Perry County Commissioner Naylor, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Sharar, Mr. Stees, Mr. Stokes, and Mr. Williams.

Guests in attendance were: Commissioner & Mrs. John Amsler, Mrs. Bullock, Mrs. Edwards, Mr. Gassert, Mr. Glesner, Mrs. Graupensperger, Mr. Gulotta, Mr. Holcombe, Mr. Jain, Mr. Mohler, Mrs. Naylor, Mr. Pettigrew, Mr. Saylor, Mrs. Shaffer, Mrs. Stees, Mrs. Stokes, Mr. Stoner, Ms. Thompson, Mr. Tunnell, Mrs. Turner, and Ms. Wood.

Members of the Commission staff present were Mr. Szymborski, Mr. Reardon, Mr. Ames, Ms. Buggy, Ms. Clay, Mr. Finnerty, Ms. Green, Mr. Hubley, Mr. Matthew Jones, Mr. Timothy Jones, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Myers-Krug, Ms. Park, Mr. Syed, Mr. Millard, and Mr. Sundara.

OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Outgoing Chairman Lenker gave some brief remarks on the accomplishments during his two year term. He is very pleased with the dialogue between the Commission and the Home Builders Association of whom he is a member. He is appreciative of the personal relationship he has with the staff and the leadership of Mr. Szymborski. Mr. Lenker also acknowledged Commission member Jim Bullock as influential as his school principal.

Commissioner Nick DiFrancesco then indicated his pleasure at attending and presented Mr. Lenker with a plaque for his service to the Commission. Commissioner DiFrancesco noted the activities done by the Commission are important to keep the issues on a rational and sane playing field. The Commissioner then read a proclamation from the Dauphin County Commissioners in which, among the platitudes, declared January 24, 2008, "Gary Lenker Day".

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Szymborski briefed the members on the Commission's structure and policy of biennial rotation of officer positions among the respective Counties. On a motion by Mr. Carney, seconded by Mr. Kerschner, the slate of officers was nominated for the 2008 year:

Chairman: Jackie Eakin, Cumberland County Planning Commission

Vice Chairman: James Turner, Perry County Planning Commission  
Secretary: William Forrey, Cumberland County Planning Commission  
Treasurer: Paul Clark, Dauphin County Planning Commission

### CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Chairman Eakin was unable to attend the meeting, but Mr. Szymborski read a statement from her, expressing her thanks for the confidence in the nomination and how she was looking forward to working with the Commission staff and members.

### MINUTES

The minutes of the October 25, 2007 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Lenker, seconded by Mr. Shaffer.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The actions of the Executive Committee on the Financial Statements for October and November 2007 were ratified on a motion by Mr. Lenker, seconded by Mr. McCallin.

The Financial Statement for December 2007 was received for filing and audit on a motion by Mr. Kerschner, seconded by Ms. Best. Copies of the Financial Statements are attached to the file copy of these minutes.

### PAYMENT OF EXPENSES

The actions of the Executive Committee on the expenses for October and November, 2007, were ratified on a motion by Mr. Graupensperger, seconded by Mr. Shaffer.

The payment of December 2007 expenses was approved on a motion by Ms. Best, seconded by Mr. McCallin.

### INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW: REDDI AQUACULTURE

Mr. Reardon presented an application from REDDI for funding to pursue a study to promote the field and application of aquaculture in the Southcentral PA region. On a motion by Mr. Shaffer, seconded by Mr. Lenker the Commission concurred with a letter of support.

### PLANNING PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

Mr. Szymborski began the report by noting the Strategic Plan Measures of Achievement report had been distributed to Commission members. The performance measures in the Plan indicated accomplishments of the TCRPC staff exclusive of any work performed by the staff of Cumberland County.

Mr. Szymborski indicated the Commission's pension plan had an investment return of 8.6 percent after expenses during 2007.

In August, 2007, the Commission adopted a Document Retention and Disposal Policy which will help the staff manage the volume of paper and information for which the Commission is a repository.

The Local Planning Assistance Program is a method of achieving and maintaining local municipal connections for the Commission, which is unequalled in the State. Recent changes to the program allow for the opportunity to serve the participating municipalities by flexing services to meet the true needs of the individual municipality. Historically the program provided meeting attendance at the municipal planning commission level and was generally limited to subdivision plan review and report. With the program changes a municipality may choose to have ordinance research or drafting completed in lieu of meeting attendance. Mr. Szymborski indicated there were over 50 municipalities involved in the program, which generated 275 night meetings for the staff and almost 700 hours of planning service to these municipalities.

The Dauphin County Commissioners adopted the Dauphin County Comprehensive Plan on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The Plan gives guidance and direction to the future growth of Dauphin County.

On the transportation front, the HATS Committees recently sent the draft update of the 2009-2012 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) to PennDOT. Due to lack of funding and the emphasis being placed on bridges, the implementation of local projects may be challenging. The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was recently adopted to update the projected cost figures to reflect Year of Expenditure (YOE). The change had some effect on some of the major projects in the last four years of the Plan. The staff began working with PennDOT this year on the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) to hold workshops for municipal officials and employees on issues having an impact at the local level. Staff is hoping to expand this effort to include planning and programming as part of this education process.

In Cumberland County the CLASH Study (Camp Hill, Lower Allen, Shiremanstown, Hampden), originally the St. John's Church Road Study recently held a public meeting to introduce its recommendations for the 22 intersections in the study area as well as the possibility of the completion of a ramp system at Route 581.

Mr. Szymborski noted his participation in the Regional Action Plan. The effort is being overseen by the Eight-County Commissioners Caucus and focusing on the land use/transportation/economic development links throughout the eight-county Southcentral PA region. The Commissioners and the Planning Directors are looking for common ground and what can be done for the region. It is expected to have a consultant on board by the end of February.

The draft Model Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and the draft Model Zoning Ordinance have been completed with the outreach of these two tools beginning. It is expected

these documents will be presented to each County Planning Commission with ultimate adoption by the Regional Planning Commission in April.

The staff is expected to begin the five-year update for the Regional Growth Management Plan this spring, with completion towards the end of 2009.

Mr. Szymborski then introduced the staff and thanked them for their efforts over the past year. He noted the staff tenure with the Commission is growing, with the average Commission employment of 14.9 years. This experience has benefited the more than 40 regional or statewide activities and programs they support.

#### TCRPC/CCPC MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

On a motion by Mr. Shaffer, seconded by Mr. McCallin, the Commission approved the updated Memorandum of Understanding with the Cumberland County Planning Commission. The need for an MOU arises since the Commission provides staff support to the Cumberland County program. In its fifth year of use, the annually updated MOU outlines the task expectations and responsibilities of the respective staffs.

#### 2008 BUDGET

Mr. Szymborski explained the proposed 2008 Commission budget, as endorsed by the Executive Committee. The budget has passed the public review process in each county as presented. On a motion by Mr. Leppo, seconded by Mr. Graupensperger, the 2008 budget was approved.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Clark, seconded by Mr. Lenker, the meeting was adjourned 7:50 p.m.

The next meeting of the Full Commission is scheduled for April 24, 2008 at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*William Forrey*

William Forrey  
Secretary