

TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
FULL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

April 24, 2008

The regular quarterly meeting of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission was held on April 24, 2008 in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Dauphin County Administration Building. Ms. Eakin called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commission members present were Chairman Eakin, Vice-Chairman Turner, Secretary Forrey, Mr. Bullock, Mr. Carney, Commissioner Eichelberger, Mr. Epley, Mr. Flint, Mr. Graupensperger, Mr. Hawk, Mr. Lenker, Mr. Leppo, Mr. Lighty, Mr. Linn, Mr. Memmi, Commissioner Naylor, Ms. Possinger, Mr. Rhoades, Mr. Sharar, Mr. Stees, and Mr. Williams. Messrs. Szymborski, Reardon, Finnerty, Syed and Ms. Park of the staff were in attendance. Messrs. Glessner, Duran and Ashley were in attendance as guests.

MINUTES

The minutes of the January 24, 2008 meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Lenker, seconded by Mr. Turner.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The actions of the Executive Committee on the Financial Statements for January and February 2008 were ratified on a motion by Mr. Bullock, seconded by Mr. Leppo.

The Financial Statement for March 2008 was received for filing and audit on a motion by Mr. Carney, seconded by Mr. Turner. 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 January and February 2008 were ratified on a motion by Commissioner Naylor, seconded by Mr. Williams.

The payment of March 2008 expenses was approved on a motion by Mr. Sharar, seconded by Commissioner Naylor.

STAFF

Mr. Szymborski noted there are currently two vacancies being pursued on staff. One has been filled and one has been advertised to be filled. In addition, the GIS Manager position is being redrafted to be classified as a GIS Coordinator. The project description is being reworded with assistance from the Dauphin County GIS and IT personnel.

The Commission has received a letter noting the retirement of long-time attorney Carl Wass. The Executive Committee has maintained continuity with the firm Caldwell & Kearns by retaining Dan Altland as Mr. Wass' replacement.

PLANNING PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

Mr. Szymborski noted outreach for the NEPA and planning link will be presented to the County Planning Commissions and at the Full Commission meeting in July. It will explain the process used to assist in the

disclosure of environmental, social, cultural, and historic impacts of transportation and development project funding and implementation. Staff is currently creating GIS applications to help identify impacts.

The Dauphin County Comprehensive Plan and brochure have been prepared for printing.

The third meeting of the Dauphin County Park, Recreation Open Space and Greenway Study is scheduled for May 22, 2008. All forty municipalities have been field visited to assist in completing the countywide inventory. The study is scheduled to be completed by October 2008 and incorporated into the County Comprehensive Plan.

The scope for the Perry County Open Space plan has been submitted to DCNR and DCED for funding consideration.

The Multi-County Hazard Mitigation Plan for Perry/Juniata/Mifflin Counties is expected to be completed by July 2008.

A composite zoning map for Dauphin County has been completed. A similar map for Perry County is under preparation.

The scope and funding for Regional Action Plan for the 8-County Southcentral PA Region has been revised to add \$12,000 to the project. The justification for this increase is due to the regional nature of the project when compared with other efforts throughout the state. The consultant for the project has been selected; Avant IMC in association with Wendt Communications. A November completion date is expected. The eight county commissioners meet quarterly on the project. The planning directors are comfortable working with these decision-makers and feel it will lead to better implementation and collaboration. With the commissioners leadership a commonality can be pursued.

GUEST SPEAKER: DR. ALEX DURAN, PhD., P.E.

Dr. Duran is an instructor at Penn State University PA Housing Resource Center and has had the opportunity to review the Commission's draft Model Zoning and Subdivisions. Dr. Duran presented some of the work his Center is doing and its relationship to the Commission's model ordinances. He passed along information on access to his center's website information. Staff responded to several of Dr. Duran's points and emphasized the committee and public involvement in the development of these ordinances. It was emphasized these documents were not meant to necessarily replace existing municipal ordinance, but rather offer regulations which may be useful to a municipality in certain situations.

TCRPC STAFF PRESENTATIONS – MODEL ZONING AND SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCES

Ms. Park and Messrs Syed and Finnerty presented the model ordinances as prepared by staff with the help of significant study review committee work. Both ordinances were explained in detail as far as contents, regulations, new concepts and implementation.

Mr. Lenker, who sat on the committee, commented on the good job done by staff and suggested uniformity with the PHRC guidelines become an objective.

Mr. Leppo, who also sat on the committee, indicated there were many hours of discussion put in on this project. He applauded the use of a standard format to make the use of the document easier.

Mr. Flint asked how use of the model ordinances would be monitored. Staff indicated they would be looking at implementation and through the review process.

On a motion by Mr. Carney, seconded by Mr. Lenker, the Commission approved the model subdivision and land development ordinance for printing and distribution to the region's municipalities.

On a motion by Mr. Leppo, seconded by Mr. Carney, the Commission approved the model zoning ordinance for printing and distribution to the region's municipalities contingent any additions by the County Conservation Districts. Mr. Leppo noted the Conservation Districts were heavily involved in the review committee work.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Leppo, seconded by Mr. Epley, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Forrey

Bill Forrey
Secretary