

Venango County Regional Planning Commission

Minutes

Meeting, July 15, 2008

Those present at the public meeting of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission held at the Venango County Fairgrounds:

Susan Hileman
Marc Rickard
Terry Ray
Matt Carlson
Garnet Wood
Ken Garland
Neil McElwee

Guests:
Mark Heim, WKQW Oil City
Fred Blauser, Cranberry Township
Ruth Sitler, DEP Harrisburg
Tim Bruno, DEP Meadville

Staff Present:
Judith Downs
Ben Breniman
Lynn Lawrence
Willis Thomas

Absent:

Warren Thomas
Debra Kapp
Jeff Langworthy
Dan Kaylor
Fred Krizinsky
Sonja Hawkins

Chairperson Ken Garland called the monthly board meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Terry Ray to approve the minutes from June 17, 2008, with a correction that Neil McElwee be shown as present to the June meeting, seconded by Garnet Wood; so moved.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

SPECIAL PURPOSE MATTERS:

- A.) Ruth Sitler and Tim Bruno from DEP presented Act 167 Integrated Water Resources Planning. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is included in the official records located in the office library. After discussing the involvement of the Conservation District, current DEP contract, impact on the County and Municipalities, it was moved by Matt Carlson to recommend the Commissioners amend the existing Countywide Act 167 Plan to include an Integrated Water Resources Plan, seconded by Marc Rickard; so moved.
- B.) The Board discussed the connectivity issues of the area surrounding the Walmart located in Cranberry Township.
- C.) The Board discussed the possibility of submitting a LUPTAP grant for Designated Growth Areas Implementation. A motion was made by Susan Hileman to prepare the application in cooperation with the Oil Region Alliance and recommend a resolution to the Commissioners for submission to DCED, with the understanding that the County would enter into a Memorandum of

Understanding with ORA for project implementation, seconded by Terry Ray; so moved.

D.) Judy Downs updated the Board on the LUPTAP Grant for the Multi Municipal Plan for Frenchcreek, Mineral and Utica.

OFFICER'S AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Wally Stearns resigned his board position due to personal reasons. Vacant positions on the Planning Board are going to remain vacant until the County Solicitor offers an opinion on the maximum number of Board Members.

Treasurer's Report – There were no items in discussion at this time.

Plan Review Committee – The Plan Review Committee discussed a waiver request from Hawbaker for the Asphalt Plant located in Barkeyville Borough to remove the specified detention pond fence. After some discussion, a motion was made by Neil McElwee not to grant the waiver, seconded by Terry Ray; so moved. The second item in discussion was Ferguson Trucking's request to use an existing stormwater pond on property owned by ORA. The Plan Review Committee noted that the existing pond is not fenced, is missing a trash screen on the overflow pipe, the overflow pipe is too high, and specified rip rap needs added to the top and inside of the spillway. A motion was made by Terry Ray to require the Oil Region Alliance to update the stormwater pond to comply with current regulations by installing a perimeter fence and to complete the improvements as originally specified, seconded by Susan Hileman; so moved.

Affordable Housing Board – twelve proposals were received for the Housing Market Study. Each proposal was reviewed and evaluated. Three proposals were selected to be interviewed on July 28, 2008.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & STAFF REPORTS:

The reports were presented as written and submitted in the agenda packet. A copy is included in the official records located in the office library.

NEW BUSINESS - INFORMATIONAL DISCUSSION:

There were no items in discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred Blausner expressed that he is in agreement with the need for the connectivity project for Cranberry Township and commented that the Planning Commission is approaching it well. The Township appreciates the Planning Commissions assistance.

A motion to adjourn was made by Susan Hileman at 8:48 p.m. seconded by Marc Rickard; so moved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lynn Lawrence
Planner I