

**Venango County Regional Planning Commission
Minutes
Meeting Oct. 20th, 2009**

Those present at the public meeting of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission held in the Courthouse Annex Building:

Matt Carlson
Warren Thomas
Ken Garland
Sonja Hawkins
Dave Owens
Debra Kapp
Garnet Wood
Fred Krizinsky
Susan Hileman
Jim Berry

Guests:
Mark Heim
Dottie Valimont
Mary Say
Harold Best
Sheila Boughner
Jim Bern
Stephanie Schreider
Michael Hadley, Esq.

Excused:
Therese Alcorn
Terry Ray
Rodney Gladd
Marc Rickard

Staff Present:
Judy Downs
Erik Johnson
Chad Cochran
Karen Wenner

Chairperson Debra Kapp called the monthly board meeting to order at 6:31 PM

A majority present was established by roll call. The attendance of 10 board members and accounted for by Erik Johnson.

A motion was made by Ken Garland to approve the minutes from July 21st, 2009 meeting, seconded by Garnet Wood; so moved.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

-None

OFFICER'S AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

-End of terms coming due for some members. Need to make nominations. Susan Hileman volunteered to head nominating committee. Warren Thomas will help

serve on the committee as well. Dave Owens is willing to come back for a full term.

-Annual Meeting and Work Plan

- Ken G. made a motion to hold an annual meeting at the Nature Lodge on November 14th at 9 am with the regular VCRPC meeting to follow at 11:30 am. Garnet W. seconded, so moved. This meeting will be advertised in the Venango Newspapers.

-Hazardous Mitigation public meetings will be held during regular VCRPC meeting on Dec. 15th. This meeting will take place at the Rocky Grove firehall. The change in location will be advertised.

Plan Review Committee

- Childhood Development Center stormwater plan and Hight Occupancy Permit issue are still outstanding. The Planning Commission agreed to hold a special meeting once requirements are met.

- Woodland subdivision was recommended for approval by committee as it is a re-plat of a previous subdivision. Ken G. made the motion to approve, seconded by Fred K., so moved.

-With regards to the Salusky subdivision, the original deed stated that the “right of way” between lots 1&2 was temporary and would be null in void in 2 years. The committee recommends a permanent right of way be established – with no expiration date. This also may be contingent on receipt of a Highway Occupancy Permit. Ken G. made the motion of recommendation, seconded by Susan H., so moved.

Housing Committee

-Meeting scheduled for Nov.. 2 at 10AM in Courthouse Annex in room 103. Topics will include: NSP2, First Time Homebuyer Program, Land Banking, Housing Rehab Guidelines, etc.

COG Representatives

- Fred K.reported that PENN DOT will be requiring 4 inches of snow before they will plow local roads. If it's a #1 road(ie. interstates 79/80) it won't be plowed until morning. He also reported on the possibility of a state mandated cost to municipalities for State Police services in their districts.

SPECIAL PURPOSE MATTERS

- Recreational and Open Space Plan draft schedule announced - the anticipated date for final approval to included it as an amendment to the Venango County Comprehensive Plan is January.

- Karren W. summarized the new state budget for 2009-10. Line items that drew initial concerns were Shared Municipal Services down to \$500K from \$2.1M, Stormwater Management totally cut to \$0, DEP cut substantially, DCED cut over 50%, Weed and Seed program cut to \$1.1M from \$3M, and Heritage Parks cut to \$0, among many others as well. Warren T. had concerns on how this may affect Planning Commission operations.
- Karren W. also reported on the Energy Conservancy Grant the County applied for just recently – stating that awarded grants may be announced as early next week; however, the process has been very competitive due to the large number of submissions
- Judy D. announced the Cultural Resources Survey is set to kick off. Indiana University of Pennsylvania is the lead consultant and will begin work in Pleasantville, Allegheny and Oil Creek Twps.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORT

- Judy Downs advised the Planning Commission is working with Wodzianski Engineering for bid specs for CDBG-R monies stimulus funds to remove architectural barriers at the County Park.
- Judy D., Commissioner Wood and John Phillips(ORA) attended and testified to the State Transportation Commission at their hearing in Erie.
- New VCRPC meeting schedule for 2010 announced.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Attorney Michael Hadley introduced himself and advised his representation of client Dottie Valimont with regards to the Childhood Development Center development in Cornplanter Twp. Mr. Hadley requested a special meeting for Cornplanter residents be called to discuss the project. He also requested an announcement be made for the meeting with 10 days notice rather than the 5 required by law. Judy D. advised the commission will do what they can to insure adequate advance notice is given.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ken G.. at 7:45 PM, seconded by Warren T.; so moved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Erik Johnson, Planner 1