



Allen Township Planning Commission

4714 Indian Trail Road

Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067

Phone: (610) 262-7012

Fax: (610) 262-7364

ALLEN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 20, 2018

A **General Meeting** of the Allen Township Planning Commission was held on Monday, August 20, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at the Allen Township Fire Company Building, 3530 Howertown Rd, Northampton, Pennsylvania 18067. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Chairman Eugene Clater.

Roll Call: Gary Behler - Present; Gary Krill - Present; Louis Tepes, Jr. – Present; Eugene Clater - Present; David Austin - Absent; Robert Cox, P.E., P.L.S. (Barry Isett & Associates, Inc.) – Absent; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr. Esq. - Present; and Ilene M. Eckhart – Present

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the minutes of June 18th, 2018; seconded by Mr. Tepes. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Commissioners present voted yes.

Regarding the minutes of July 16, 2018, Mr. Clater noted some corrections and that the actions contained in the minutes concerning the plans discussed at the July 16th meeting were non-binding in nature, intended for guidance to the applicant only. Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted corrections and Mr. Clater's statement regarding the non-binding intention of the motions related to development items; seconded by Mr. Krill. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Commissioners present voted yes.

Public to be Heard: No comments from the audience.

Business Items:

A. Allen Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan “Creating Connections”, 2017-18 Public Meeting and tentative adoption September 25th, 2018: Ms. Eckhart provided a brief overview of the draft plan, which is the work of two years by the Study Committee and consultant. She indicated that the plan has been reviewed by the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and provided the comments received to the Commission. Mr. Behler made a motion to recommend adoption of the Allen Township Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan “Creating Connections”, 2017-18 to the Board of Supervisors; seconded by Mr. Krill. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Commissioners present voted yes.

Public To Be Heard: Mr. Jim Beenders, Seemsville Road, questioned the 18-hour concrete pours which were discussed recently by the Board of Supervisors. He voiced concern with that this type of construction was approved. Mr. Clater indicated that this issue was not an item brought before the Planning Commission. He suggested Mr. Beenders direct his concerns to the Supervisors.

Mrs. Catherine Yowakim, 3507 Howertown Road, voiced concerns about rules being changed with regard to which roadways trucks are permitted to travel. She stated trucks are now allowed on Route 248, Old Carriage and other roads which the Planning Commission previously assured would be prohibited from truck travel. Mr. Clater commented on the passage of new legislation by the Commonwealth and directed Mrs. Yowakim to the Commonwealth legislature. Mr. Clater further explained his understanding of the new legislation as referenced by Mrs. Yowakim. Additionally, he explained the Truck Access Network of the Commonwealth. The new bill changed that trucks can go anywhere unless there is an engineering study performed by Commonwealth (PennDOT). The new law will become effective in December 2018.

Ms. Sue Lindenmoyer, Mud Lane, questioned if Jaindl purchased land from the Northampton Area School District. Mr. Clater indicated he was aware that the Commonwealth Department of General Services did allow the use but was not certain that the Northampton Area School District has taken any action on the Jaindl offer. Ms. Lindenmoyer questioned the Howertown Road access.

Mr. Ron Litner, 4025 Old Carriage Road, questioned if the Township could still plead their case regarding certain roads, such as Weaversville Road. In order to expedite the necessary studies which would need to be completed prior to the December 2018 deadline.

Mr. Jim Beenders, Seemsville Road, questioned if the Planning Commission would still encourage signage to direct trucks where they were not to travel.

Mr. Dale Barthol, Tanglewood Road, was concerned with the traffic. He noted that Jaindl has land in other places, which he should be advised he utilize for this type of development. He questioned if the school was voted down due to traffic accidents at the Seemsville Road/Route 329 intersection, how could this not be a same issue with the proposed development?

Sue Lindenmoyer, Mud Lane, questioned the stormwater conditions. Mr. Clater provided an explanation of the reduction management of stormwater which would equate to an approximate 30% reduction and took into account the existing stormwater issues along Mud Lane. Additionally, Mr. Clater provided an update regarding the replacement of the Howertown Road Bridge.

Mrs. Betty Hrkach, Oak Lane, questioned the Rt. 329 detour schedule and the removal of the temporary speed bumps on Drexel Drive, Debbie Drive and Short Lane.

Mr. Jeffrey Stein, Seemsville Road, indicated is employed by PennDOT and voiced concerns regarding the traffic studies which have been presented and the stormwater management techniques which he felt were not adequate.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart