

UPPER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
August 27, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was held in the Upper Hanover Township Building and was called to order by the Chair Bill Ritting at 7:06 PM.

Municipal representatives present:

East Greenville – Josiah Pierson, Bob Gery
Green Lane – Not present
Marlborough – Bill Ritting
Pennsburg – Fred Schutte
Red Hill – Faith Diascro
Upper Hanover – Steve Rothenberger

Also present this evening: Eric Jarrell from the Montgomery County Planning Commission; Michele Fillippo from the Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce; Margie Gelhaus from the Upper Perkiomen School District.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2014 was made by Steve Rothenberger, seconded by Josiah Pierson, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Current account balance is \$17,774.15.

Upper Perkiomen Valley Wayfinding and Identity Program Update

Michele Fillippo reported that PerkUp received a Schuylkill Highlands grant of \$5,000 to get the wayfinding sign prototypes installed. They will be working with the Montgomery County Career and Technology Center to cut, paint and reassemble the signs as needed. It is hoped that, working with the municipalities, the signs can be up sometime in the Fall.

Multi-Regional Greenway and Stewardship Study – Presentation of Draft Work Plan

Eric Jarrell gave a presentation summarizing the work plan for completing the Multi-regional Greenway and Stewardship Study. He highlighted the natural and community resources that will be inventoried and how the resources will be prioritized through a community process. Using the established regional and municipal priorities, three types of greenways will be identified: resource greenways, main street greenways and greenway connectors. Following identification of the greenways, including parcel-level analysis, stewardship recommendations will be established for both municipalities and landowners. In addition to the Greenway Study, an in-depth Stewardship Study, including stewardship assessments for local parks as well a management plans for several larger parks, will be completed by the Natural Lands Trust should the County receive a requested DCNR grant.

Regional Updates

East Greenville – Work on a 12-unit condo is ongoing.

Green Lane – Not present.

Marlborough – The Planning Commission continues to work on a Vision Plan for Perkiomenville and Sumneytown.

Pennsburg – No update on the 7-Eleven that shut down and had its tanks removed in the Spring. It is hoped that it can be sold soon for a new use.

Red Hill – The proposal for town homes on the Kerschner property is moving forward. A zoning amendment will likely be necessary for the project to move forward.

Upper Hanover – Nothing new.

Hereford – Not present.

School District – Nothing new.

PerkUp Update – Michele Fillippo discussed the Education Initiative and work with the High School community service students. She also announced the Upper Perkiomen Bird and Wildlife Festival, a workshop on *Simple Steps for Starting a Small Business* sponsored by Pottstown SCORE and an “Evening with the Chamber” event called Denim and Diamonds to be held at the St. Luke’s Outpatient Facility.

County Planning Updates – Eric Jarrell confirmed there was interest to have a presentation on the draft County Comprehensive Plan at the September meeting.

Inter-regional Planning Cooperative – There will be another meeting this year although the time and place has not be determined. Members of the Cooperative will be represented on the Greenways and Stewardship Study Steering Committee.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Jarrell, Acting Secretary