

UPPER PERKIOMEN VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
September 24, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was held in the Upper Hanover Township Building and was called to order by the Vice-Chair Chuck McCleary at 7:02 PM.

Municipal representatives present:

East Greenville – Josiah Pierson
Green Lane – Not present
Marlborough – Not Present
Pennsburg – Michael Mensch
Red Hill – Faith Diascro, Charles McCleary
Upper Hanover – Steve Rothenberger

Also present this evening: Eric Jarrell from the Montgomery County Planning Commission; Luanne Stauffer from the Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2014 was made by Steve Rothenberger, seconded by Faith Diascro, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Current account balance is \$17,774.15.

Special Presentation: Draft County Comprehensive Plan

Brian O'Leary from the Montgomery County Planning Commission presented a slideshow summarizing the policies and recommendations of the County's Draft Comprehensive Plan: *Montco 2040: A Shared Vision*. His presentation focused upon the three themes the plan is organized around. The first theme, Connected Communities, deals with transportation and bike and pedestrian mobility, municipal cooperation, and downtowns. The second theme, Sustainable Places, involves community facilities, floodplain and stormwater management, natural resource preservation, housing, and healthy neighborhoods and lifestyles. The third theme deals with creating a Vibrant Economy and discusses attracting and retaining businesses, improving transportation access, encouraging development where infrastructure exists and generally marketing the County.

A number of public meetings have been held around the County to get input regarding the plan's recommendations. Over the next month the steering committee will revise the Plan based upon the public input and hope to provide a final plan to the County Commissioners by the end of the year for their consideration.

Upper Perkiomen Valley Wayfinding and Identity Program Update

Luanne Stauffer noted that everyone is continuing to work on getting the wayfinding sign prototypes installed. In addition, the Chamber was able to complete an application for a grant from the PA-DOT Multi Modal Fund to install the complete wayfinding sign system. The turn-around time between the grant announcement and the grant deadline was very short but, with the help of various partners, the application was submitted on time. In particular, a number of municipalities were able to complete support letters, including a commitment to provide matching.

Regional Updates

East Greenville – Work on the Jefferson Street condos continues.

Green Lane – No report.

Marlborough – No Report.

Pennsburg – Two dormitories at the Perkiomen School are completed and occupied and a third will soon start construction. The Shopping Center is improving the circulation and the Planning Commission gave approval for Weis to add a gas station on the property. In addition, Weis is opening a Pub and is looking to get PLCB approval to start selling alcohol.

Red Hill – The Borough Planning Commission hosted a Walkability Audit and had a good turnout. Discussions involving the proposal for townhomes on the Kerschner property continue.

Upper Hanover – An 11-lot subdivision on Andrews Lane and Buck Road was submitted along with a proposal for the Heckler subdivision which will be served by public sewer and water.

School District – No Report.

PerkUp Update – Luanne Stauffer reminded everyone of the “Evening with the Chamber” event called Denim and Diamonds to be held at the St. Luke’s Outpatient Facility on October 23rd.

County Planning Updates – Eric Jarrell summarized the County’s 2013 Units Built report, highlighting construction in the Upper Perkiomen Valley.

Inter-regional Planning Cooperative – There will be another meeting this year although the time and place has not be determined.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric Jarrell, Acting Secretary