

HUNTERDON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Minutes - April 2, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Page Stiger, Carol Hoffmann, Andy Borkin, Dana Desiderio, Tom Kacedon, Elaine Niemann, Ken Novak, Phil Greiner, Jim Martin
Freeholder Lagay

ABSENT: Freeholder King and Freeholder Lanza

STAFF PRESENT: Sue Dziamara, Carrie Fellows, Ken Bogen, Bill Millette, Rick Steffey, Adam Bradford,
Josie Glynn
Shana Taylor, County Counsel

Chair Page Stiger read the Open Public Meetings Act notice and called the meeting to order at 8:32 A.M.

"This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice has been provided by prominently posting and maintaining so posted throughout the year in the Office of the County Clerk, Hall of Records, Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey, a public place reserved for such announcements, and by mailing on or before January 9, 2015 to The Hunterdon Democrat, The Express Times, Courier News, The Trenton Times, and Star Ledger, newspapers designated by the Hunterdon County Planning Board to receive such notices. Notice has also been posted on-line in the Hunterdon County News"

MINUTES OF THE February 5, 2015 MEETING:

Motion to approve by Ken Novak, seconded by Andy Borkin. Abstained: Dana Desiderio, Elaine Niemann, Carol Hoffmann, Jim Martin

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

DRC Committee Report:

Dana went over the DRC Report showing Applications that were reviewed at the last meeting and their actions. She also reported on the applications being reviewed at today's meeting. Summary along with the actions and next steps were handed out at the meeting.

The planning staff has begun the process of updating the current County Land Development Standards. Also staff has held discussions with the County Engineering department concerning the most efficient outreach methods that we can use for contacting municipal planners and engineers in order to help expedite the application review process for those applications that will require County review. The subcommittee will meet later this month to discuss these issues.

DRC

April 2, 2015: Tom Kacedon, Carol Hoffmann

April 16, 2015: Ken Novak, Dana Desiderio

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: No report -have not met yet

CEDS Committee: CEDS committee will be meeting after the meeting; and will have a report next month.

Municipal Outreach: Elaine attended the Shared Services meeting on 3/17/15 as a representative of the Planning Board's Municipal Outreach committee to give them suggestions of what we would like to see them do such as a breakfast talk subject for shared services. One of the key topics was the sharing of information technology services. It was decided at our next breakfast talk we could distribute surveys so we could find out what our municipalities are doing and what their expenditures might be and to try and figure out a way to take that information and potentially try and support the municipal needs on IT at the County level. Salt storage was also discussed. There have been discussions at the county level to build another salt barn and allow the municipal DPWs to share in that use.

Ken added that the purpose of the breakfast talk would be to discuss the services we currently offer, and how the municipalities may obtain those services. And also, what other Shared Services can we provide?

Parks Committee: Carol reported - Parks committee all received a copy of the Park & Recreation Master Plan 2000 and they will schedule a meeting to go over the Plan.

Process and Guidance Committee: The committee met and went over all the Bylaws that are currently in effect and asked County Counsel to review. The draft bylaws along with the current bylaws have been sent out to the Board to review. Sue will send out the meeting notes that outline the basic changes that were made. We will vote on the new bylaws after the Board has had a chance to review (next meeting).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Staff Activity Report: Staff Activity Report - Sue decided we need to do something different for the activity report. Since January, Sue has been doing a Planning Activities summary report for the BOCF and will do the same for the Planning Board so the Board can get an idea of the subject matter and more of a summary of what staff is working on.

Highlands Monitoring Program: The Highlands is completing a Monitoring Report to outline if the Highlands Act has been effective in achieving the goals and objectives set out in the Master Plan. The County Planners will be meeting to discuss County conformance at the end of the month. Previously we completed an initial assessment which we submitted to the Highlands, but we never did conformance. When the initial assessment was completed, the Freeholder Board was firm in their position that Hunterdon would do what the law says we must do, but we are not going to impose additional restrictions on our own land. Sue will discuss this with the Freeholder Liaisons and take their message to the meeting at the end of the month.

Route 31 Scheduled Improvements: Sue scheduled a meeting with NJDOT to get an update on the improvements to the Route 31 Corridor. Phase one from Minneakoning Road to North of Prestige Plaza should begin construction in the fall of this year. There are 5 more phases that will lead up to the widening of the Railroad Bridge. At some point this year Sue would like to invite the NJTPA to one of our meetings to give the board a presentation on what it is that they do, and their importance to the County. We may also want to open this up to our municipal partners; there are many grant opportunities available through NJTPA. Kingwood Township took advantage of one of these grant opportunities and recently released their Local Demonstration Project final report.

There was a discussion regarding the Flemington Circle. Engineering and Planning have been in meetings over the past years. The plan for the circle contains a pass-through lane on 202/31 northbound. If you are on 202/31 and are going on 31, you will be going through the circle; if on 31 and want to go to Route 12, there will be a pass through lane. All other movements will be through the circle. Sue has a copy of the diagram of the plans for the circle; she will see if the document can be emailed to the Board.

Transaction: "Transaction" is an annual transportation conference held in Atlantic City and sponsored by NJTPA. Sue was invited to sit on one of the panels to talk about our CEDS. Sue will be preparing a Power Point presentation for the conference on the 21st of the month.

Leading the Way: From Plan to Implementation: - A Save the Date was sent to all members announcing a presentation from Together North Jersey. The day will include a variety of peer-learning, networking and "match-making" opportunities to connect funders, developers, state agency program managers with local projects and others interested in supporting place-making, economic growth and investment in the region. Freeholder Holt has been asked to speak in the morning session and the afternoon will have a poster session. Ken and Sue came up with a poster of Hunterdon County to reflect the Economic Development aspect of the County. Sue and Ken will be presenting their poster along with other county government projects with their posters and people representing them and talking about their projects and what they did and how they did it.

Saturday, June 13th: 2nd Annual Hunterdon County Community Day at South County Park.

Office Update - C&HC move: Carrie updated the Board. She is at the Courthouse Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, all day; and in the Planning Office, Tuesdays and Fridays. Files are moved, new conference room table, chairs, reception desk have been delivered. They are working with Frank Bell for lighting and hanging systems. This will allow them to do art exhibitions.

On June 13th, Cultural & Heritage is bringing back the Arts and History Expo in the assembly room. All the Cultural & Heritage agencies, organizations, historical societies and museums have been invited to take part.

Chair Stiger thanked Ken Novak for bringing focus to the environmental and land homeowner's equity issues and safety at the last Pipeline meeting.

FREEHOLDER UPDATE:

PennEast Pipeline: The BOCF attended the FERC meeting last month presenting the notions that came from the Planning Board and CADB meetings along with various stakeholders. They wrote a letter and it was read publically into the minutes of the meeting and submitted to FERC.

The considerations they presented:

1st case: Look for alternate routes

2nd case: Look for routes that are already established

3rd case: If something like this is going to happen; then look at the homeowner's equity issue

Budget: The Freeholders are working on the budget and are close to having it ready; should be ready for introduction by the 2nd meeting in April.

CEDS: We are working on the implementation plan. Freeholders Holt and Lagay have designed a table of organization for implementation.

COAH: Questions that were brought up in a discussion: 1) Why does this concern us? 2) What does it mean? 3) Does the county have to take any action?

We do not have to take any action. Staff has reviewed the NJSA Court rulings and the County is up to date with the COAH regulations. The County can provide guidance to the public or municipalities if needed.

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS:

Sue printed copies of articles about things going on in Hunterdon County and distributed them.

There was no further business to be brought before the Board. Tom Kacedon made a motion to adjourn; Ken Novak seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 AM.

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 7, 2015, 8:30 AM

Josie Glynn for Secretary, Andy Borkin