

SUSSEX COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

MINUTES

JUNE 3, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Borisuk at 4:05 p.m. The meeting is held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-2 of 1975, as amended. Present were:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Andy Borisuk, Chairman
 Michael Francis
 Wolfgang Gstattenbauer
 Gene Crawford, 1st Alternate
 Dan Flynn, 2nd Alternate
 John Risko, Engineering Alternate
 Rich Vohden, Freeholder Director

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Michael Cecchini
 Dr. John Ford, Vice Chairman

STAFF PRESENT: Eric Snyder, Planning Director
 Alice Brees, Principal Planner
 Antoinette Wasiewicz, Recording Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: None

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Michael Francis to approve the Minutes of May 6, 2013 as presented. The motion was seconded by Wolfgang Gstattenbauer. All were in favor with an abstention from Andy Borisuk. Motion carried.

SITE PLAN/SUBDIVISION REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A motion was made by Rich Vohden to approve the Development Review Committee Reports for May 6, 2013 and May 20, 2013 as presented. The motion was seconded by Michael Francis and carried unanimously.

APPEALS AND WAIVER REQUESTS:

A. RESOLUTION FOR OCCHIFINTO, SITE PLAN FILE 6(PSP)13, ROUTE 663, NEWTON:

A motion was made by Wolfgang Gstattenbauer to memorialize the Resolution for the Occhifinto Site Plan. The motion was seconded by Dan Flynn. A vote was taken. Results were as follows: Michael Francis-Yes; Wolfgang Gstattenbauer-Yes; Gene Crawford-Yes; Dan Flynn-Yes; and Rich Vohden-Yes. Motion carried.

B. RESOLUTION FOR HAUBRICH ENTERPRISES, LLC, SITE PLAN FILE 8(PSP)13, ROUTE 633 BRANCHVILLE:

A motion was made by Wolfgang Gstattenbauer to memorialize the Resolution for the Haubrich Enterprises, LLC Site Plan. The motion was seconded by Gene Crawford. A vote was taken. Results were as follows: Michael Francis-Yes; Wolfgang Gstattenbauer-Yes; Gene Crawford-Yes; Dan Flynn-Yes; and Rich Vohden-Yes. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Eric Snyder reported that Newton received Plan Endorsement and was again declared a Regional Center by the State Planning Commission. The first meeting of the Steering Committee for Complete Streets is scheduled for June 5. Mr. Snyder also said the County is still in the process of discussing some other grant opportunities with regard to an economic analysis. There are two small grants from the Highlands for agri- and eco-tourism analyses that are ongoing. A possibility exists that the County will get a much larger grant for an all-encompassing study done by Rutgers for Sussex and its place within the larger region.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS;

A. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING BLUEWAY DESIGNATION FOR THE DELAWARE RIVER WATERSHED:

Eric Snyder said in the United States there are a number of river basins that, because they have been declared Blueways, are eligible for increased federal attention. The Delaware Basin is one of the most important river basins outside of the Colorado River, and there is an effort to get it classified as a Blueway so that people will begin to understand, from an economic perspective, how important it is. About 16 million people depend on the basin in one form or another for clean drinking water. Everything that is done in the basin affects that water supply.

When asked what the Blueway designation will do, Mr. Snyder said it will open the way for federal funding. Rich Vohden said the Delaware is protected from Port Jervis all the way down but there is no access to the river on the New Jersey side.

Mr. Snyder said will have this Resolution at the next Planning Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR MUNICIPALITIES IN SUSSEX COUNTY, 2012:

Alice provided the Board with the most recent 2012 population estimates from the Census Bureau for municipalities in Sussex County. These estimates were derived from birth and death records and income tax returns. According to the estimates, Sussex County lost almost 2,000 residents in the last two years, and estimated population is 147,442. This trend is also occurring in other rural counties Statewide. John Risko said those figures are also consistent with what they've seen in traffic volume studies, with some reduced traffic volumes. Rich Vohden said this is also reflected in foreclosure rates.

Eric Snyder said young adults are moving out of rural areas and not coming back once they have married and started families. He said that is one of the reasons why the County is looking at economic studies. The studies will show what is going on and if there is anything that can be done that will have an impact. Michael Francis talked about the benefits of mixed use zoning. Alice Brees said it will be interesting to see how much some of the new municipal centers will develop. Rich Vohden said aside from young adults leaving the County, there are senior citizens leaving because they can no longer afford to live here. Also, baby boomers are going into retirement and their pensions aren't as good as they were a few years ago, so more of them will be leaving. Andy Borisuk said the price of fuel is discouraging people from making long commutes.

OPEN TO PUBLIC:

None

ADJOURNMENT

All business having been completed, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Wolfgang Gstattenbauer. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.