

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 12, 2015
Lower Saucon Township

- A. Call to Order** – Priscilla deLeon – 7:00 p.m.
- B. Roll Call** – Priscilla deLeon, Thomas Rieger, Richard Fluck, Ed Inghrim, Leslie Huhn, Cathy Hartranft, Mark Sivak, Luis Campos. Absent – John Bate, Glen Kern. Guest – Cedric Dittmar – Saucon Valley Education Foundation
- C. Election of Officers** (One Year Term)
Upon motion by Mr. Sivak, second by Mr. Rieger to nominate Ed Inghrim as Chair. All ayes.
Upon motion by Mr. Rieger, second by Mr. Inghrim to nominate Priscilla deLeon as Vice Chair. All ayes.
Upon motion by Mr. Rieger second by Mr. Inghrim to nominate Mrs. Huhn as Secretary/Treasurer. All ayes.
- D. Council of Governments**
- 1. Approval of Minutes**
Motion by Mr. Rieger, second by Mrs. deLeon to accept the September 10, 2014 minutes as written. All in favor.
 - 2. Treasurer’s Report**
Mrs. Huhn reported the SVP checking account balance is \$20,958.04 and the comprehensive plan grant account fund balance is \$3,882.15 as of February 28, 2015. There were no expenses. Motion by Mr. Rieger, seconded by Mr. Inghrim. All in favor.
 - 3. Approval to Pay Bills**
Mrs. Huhn informed the committee the Survey Monkey subscription expired. A discussion occurred among the committee to not renew the subscription until a survey is prepared for distribution.

Motion by Mr. Rieger, second by Mr. Sivak to waive the SVP fees for 2015. All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. deLeon, second by Mr. Rieger to pay the annual PA COG dues of \$250.00.
- E. New Business**
- 1. LVIP VII, Phase 5A & Lots 53 and 53A Scoping Documents – Easton Road**
Mrs. Hartranft informed the committee she was in attendance at the scoping meeting to review the need for an HOP for access drives onto Easton Road. Environmental impacts and grading prohibit the developer from providing access from Commerce Center Blvd. or Gilcrest Drive. Hellertown Borough will submit a letter to PennDot outlining concerns and suggestions for the intersection of Cherry Lane and Easton Road, including limiting truck traffic to local deliveries on the borough’s portion of Easton Road, a direction signal to I78 at Cherry Lane & Easton Road and an LVIP VII direction sign at Easton and Main. The Borough will also request a traffic study to include the intersection of Cherry Lane and Easton Rd. to determine if a traffic signal and/or intersection improvements are warranted.
 - 2. Saucon Valley Education Foundation Presentation**
Mr. Cedric Dittmar presented plans for the continued development of the Environmental Education Center that includes a paved entry area and path, configured parking area and trenching for the installation of water and electric. Mr. Dittmar requested assistance from the SVP since they have limited funds.

Mr. Inghrim suggested the engineers from the respective municipalities meet to review the project. Mr. Rieger pointed out that manpower may be limited this year. Mr. Campos indicated the County may have grant funding available for this type of project. Mr. Dittmar commented the project cost is estimated to be \$30,000+.

Motion by Mr. Rieger, second by Mrs. deLeon to support the SVP and the Foundation with seeking out grant funding with a possible monetary contribution. All in favor.

3. Development Projects in Lower Saucon Township

Mrs. deLeon reviewed two development projects. Woodmont is a 200+ condo development off Friedensville Road. This area is zoned single-family residential. The developer is proposing increasing the density to 9 units per acre with a zoning amendment to urban residential. Mrs. deLeon also discussed the potential development of the Silver Creek Country Club that would include three parcels with approximately 30+ lots each.

Mr. Rieger informed the committee Hellertown is aware of these potential projects and would like to meet with the developers or have an opportunity to review the plans for traffic and stormwater impact.

Mrs. deLeon updated the committee on DEP's most recent informational meeting regarding the IESI Landfill expansion.

4. Renewal of Survey Monkey Subscription – this item was previously discussed.

5. Approval of 2015 Meeting Dates

May 13 @ SVSD, September 10 @ Hellertown Borough, November 11 @ Lower Saucon

*Note the September meeting is moved to a Thursday due to a scheduling conflict in Hellertown.

6. Discussion of Waiver of 2015 Dues – this item was previously discussed

F. Brief Reports and Discussion Items

1. Casino Impact Funding/County Gaming Authority

Cathy Hartranft reported the Borough of Hellertown applied for two full time police officers.

Leslie Huhn reported Lower Saucon Township applied for one police officer and one police vehicle.

2. Joint COG Projects – Under review

3. Roads & Traffic

The partnership discussed the Route 412 project. The next informational session with PennDot is scheduled for May 28 at Hellertown.

4. Saucon Valley Compost Center – The Compost Center will open April 25th. Expanded evening hours are being offered once a month for May, June, July.

- F. County Report** – Mr. Luis Campos was present to update the committee on County initiatives. The County Executive is proposing to offer \$1 million of Gaming Authority funds to the County DCED to offer grant and loan funding to the municipalities for economic development initiatives. Mr. Brown’s State of the County address is scheduled for March 25th at Northampton Community College. The County administration is watching Gracedale closely. Gracedale is expected to cost the County upwards of \$12 million dollars per year in 3 years.
- G. Citizen Comment on Non-Agenda Items**
Mr. Dave Willard and Mr. Jack Cahalan were present to review the Lower Saucon Township Economic Development Task Force findings. The report is available on the township’s web site.
- H. Calendar of Events**
An artist reception will be held on March 30th at the Conservancy. A joint Planning Commission meeting will be held April 23rd at Lower Saucon Township. A Saucon Rail Trail clean-up day is scheduled for April 25th. On April 23rd the HLSCC is hosting a business event at Lower Saucon Township May 2nd is History Day. An update on the Route 412 project will be held in Hellertown on May 28th.
- Ed Inghrim updated the Partnership members on Saucon Valley school district contract negotiations.
- Mr. Rieger notified the Partnership that Water Street Park will be closed beginning April 1st through the end of the year due to construction improvements. The Farmers Market will be located at the lot next to the Hellertown Library for this year.
- I. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Saucon Valley Partnership will be held on May 13, 2015 @ Saucon Valley School District.