

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 8, 2019  
Hellertown Borough

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- A. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Phil Weber.
- B. Roll Call** – Phil Weber, Mike Karabin, Priscilla deLeon, Cathy Gorman
- C. Council of Governments**
1. Minutes – Motion by Priscilla deLeon, seconded by Phil Weber to approve the meeting notes of February 13, 2019.
  2. Approval to Pay Bills – None
  3. Annual Dues – All paid but the County. Priscilla asked for a reminder notice to be sent to the County.
  4. Treasurer’s Report – Report was presented the April 30, 2019 Treasurer’s Report with a balance of \$25,387.68. Priscilla moved for the approval, Phil seconded. Motion passes 3-0
- D. Business Items**
1. **Multi-Municipal Comp Plan** – Phil said we just have to vote for an agreement like we did last time. We are only going to update the book. Priscilla said we are just making changes where needed and keeping our consultant. Phil said we need to approve the agreement if we are in favor. Priscilla said when the by-laws were created, this Board does not have the right to enter agreements. We have to take it back to our Boards for approval. Hellertown feels that it is the best thing for them as it saves them money. Priscilla said all this is taking time, which we are already into half the year and we are nowhere further into this agreement as we were two years ago. Either we have quorums or no quorums. Priscilla agrees we should take it back to the Boards. Mike asked if we have the funds. Priscilla said we were short by a couple thousand dollars and when we pay our dues next year we will have the money. Phil said we both feel it is important and a couple thousand dollars is not going to be a big deal. Priscilla said that the new members of the Councils need know the importance of this Board and what the plan offers. Priscilla asked if Mike was aware of the email that Craig sent and that the School Board is willing to pay their dues but no more. Mike confirmed that the Board only wants to pay the dues. They do not care what Hellertown and Lower Saucon pays. Priscilla said that is fine but what if we have a joint project, what then. Mike said their Board does not think it is important to them. Phil said we need to work with them to get them to understand. Phil said out of everything done through the Partnership, the School has gotten the biggest bang for their buck with the repaving of the school districts parking lot. Cathy said the COG permitted the municipalities to work with the School District. Priscilla asked if we can get a meeting together with perhaps Cathy, Tom, Susan, Craig, Leslie and herself to go over the projects that were worked out through this partnership, so that new board members understand the importance of it. Phil said he wants to move forward and we can figure something out with the money. Priscilla said maybe the consultant will work with them. Phil said if you look at Hellertown before and after we did this, it is night and day. The communication between everyone is better. He said a lot of Hellertownians now think we work together as one. Mike said there is a good portion of the Board that does not know everything that the Partnership has done. Priscilla said we have to get the Councils/Board to approve the agreement and the authorization for the Partnership to cut the checks when they come in. Priscilla hopes the School District would allow them to use their building. We need to get a time line.

2. **By-Laws** – Priscilla asked for this to be on the agenda because as the by-laws are written, a quorum of all three groups must show up, as opposed to two of the three. A quorum is three and if the School District does not show up we cannot do business. Phil said he preferred to keep it the same because he wants to make sure the School District is a part of it. He gets that not everything has to do with them, but he does not want them not to come and then they are really not a part of it anymore. She wants to talk about it, there are supposed to be two representatives from the Township and the same with Hellertown.

**E. Brief Reports & Discussion Items**

1. **Grants** – None
2. **Joint COG Projects** – None. Priscilla asked if we can scan the minutes to see if we can get a list of the projects we have worked on. She thinks it would be good to promote. Cathy offered to look back through.
3. **Roads & Traffic**
  - a. **Water Street Bridge** – Replacement is scheduled to begin in a couple of weeks. They will be out this week to stake things out. Work should be done in 60 days. They have been asking the State for a left hand turn signal. PennDot said they are going to monitor it when they get here but it will be too late then.
  - b. **Easton Rd./Cherry Lane/Ringhoffer Road** – No update
  - c. **UGI Liquid Natural Gas Project** – Priscilla indicated they are building and have not heard about any more development on Easton Rd. Priscilla asked about Cherry Lane. Phil said it has created a nightmare for Hellertown forever. Priscilla said UGI was going to use Ringhoffer and couldn't. Now they are coming through on Easton and Cherry. They were supposed to come in through Rt. 412.
  - c. **Meadows Rd Bridge** – Priscilla reported that it is under Federal review. Plans are not definitive yet. There is still hope for rehabilitation. She still hopes they do not use the concrete stamped stone. Mike asked about the bridge on High St., Phil said it is owned by the County.
4. **Saucon Valley Compost Center** – Cathy confirmed the project is out for bid for May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will send results for both Council approvals.
5. **Northampton County Report** – Nothing to report. Cathy noted that Mr. McClure sent the Township a letter of support for the Watershed grant for Reading Dr.

**G. Citizens Commenting on Non-Agenda Items** – None

**H. Events Calendar**

1. Music in the Park will start June 9<sup>th</sup>. Booked solid
2. Community Day August 17, 2019
3. Movies in the park in August will be the 1<sup>st</sup> time for Lower Saucon. Hellertown's movie did well.
4. Saucon Valley Spirit Parade – October 20, 2019
5. Trick or Treat night was approved by the survey and it will be on Halloween night.

**Adjournment** – the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm.

**The next meeting of the Saucon Valley Partnership is Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at Lower Saucon Township and July 10, 2019 at the School District.**