

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 8, 2020
Saucon Valley School District

- A. Call to Order:** Phil Weber called the meeting to order.
- B. Attendance:** Phil Weber, Priscilla deLeon, Mike Karabin, Shawn Welch, Sandra Miller, Leslie Huhn, Cathy Hartranft, Mark Hartney, Carolyn Yagle (EDP)
- C. Election of Officers (One-Year Term)**
1. Election of Chair – Mike Karabin made a motion, second by Phil Weber to appoint Priscilla deLeon as Chair.
 2. Election of Vice Chair – Mike Karabin made a motion, second by Priscilla deLeon to appoint Phil Weber as Vice Chair. All Agreed
 3. Appointment of Secretary/Treasurer – Priscilla deLeon made a motion, second by Mike Karabin to appoint Leslie Huhn and Cathy Hartranft to share the duties. All agreed.

Council of Governments:

1. Minutes – Motion by Mike Karabin, seconded by Priscilla deLeon to approve the October 9, 2019 minutes. All Agreed.
2. Treasurer’s Report – Phil Weber made a motions to approve the treasurer’s report presented by Leslie. Mike Karabin seconded. All Agreed.
3. Approval to Pay Bills – Leslie presented invoices from EDP for November, December and January totaling \$11,622.17 representing work completed on the Multi-municipal Comprehensive Plan. Upon motion by Mike Karabin, second by Phil Weber, the bills were approved.

D. Business Items:

1. Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan – Carolyn Yagle from EDP reviewed the implementation schedule and discussed funding components. She presented a program entitled Sustainable Pennsylvania which is intended to recognize local governments in PA for deploying the policy and practice of sustainability for their communities’ prosperity. It provides for accountability and benchmarking and sets levels of distinction which can “bump up” grant applications. If there is a desire to address this it would be included in the action plan. She encourages participating in the program. Shawn was concerned about compliance and cost once submitted. Carolyn said there would be not cost, but if you did not sustain an item you would lose the points associated with it. The question came up if the County could be included. Carolyn said we would not to adopt their policies and some of them might not fit both municipalities. The next step would be to review the data.

Carolyn discussed the public sector involvement, redevelopment regarding right of way or infrastructure. She spoke about broadband and WIFI which would attract businesses. A smart city, how it would work – not techy. Need to relate to economic development – opens funding.

5G vs. DAS – involves the ability to regulate in Public ROW vs. not – can set parameter. Need to be aware and how to manage it. Former cable providers are trying to get around public utilities. The challenge is technology is getting smaller – visual impact and outline that it is always moving and how we want to address in the Plan.

We don't want to fall behind the times. The School District is looking at it from an economic impact. The real issue is the security of any system. Is a protocol in place, places where it can be looked at and where does this go in the Comp. Plan. Look at key points of action. Shawn asked if Homeland security would need to be involved.

Need to look at areas to encourage economic development. LERTA zones can encourage development. LVEDC is for recruitment, they offer tools from County. See if we need to identify in the Comp. Plan. Vacant store fronts, discuss issues and shift changes in patterns. Focus on fundamentals

Need to include update on stormwater – including construction standards.

Next step is to look at dates for public meetings after February SVP meeting.

E. Brief Reports and Discussion Items:

1. **Grants** – No update
2. **Joint COG Projects** – no update
3. **Roads & Traffic:**
 - a. Easton Road/Cherry Lane/Ringhoffer Road – Nothing to update.
 - b. PennDOT Roads – Main Street safety upgrades, traffic signal improvements. Installation will not hold up traffic.
4. **Saucon Valley Compost Center** – Compost Center Pole Barn to be completed soon
5. **Meadows Road Bridge** – Mark Hartney said the County is trying to meet with FHWA. Push them for contact sensitive replacement – Preliminary engineering. On TIP for 2026. Leslie stated the Township hired Skelly and Loy to prepare a PHMC National Register nomination.
6. **Northampton County Report** – Mark said the County is conducting a lead initiative with funding coming through HUD. Also looking at another program for owner occupied rehab utilizing a formula for how long you have lived in the house. Could be used for heating upgrades, weatherization. They are conducting small business start-up seminars in April.

F. Citizens Commenting on Non-Agenda Items – None

G. Events Calendar:

1. Winter Restaurant Week
2. Small Business Round Table with Emergency Services – January 13, 2020
3. Northampton County Collection Events – Document shredding – April 4, 2020 and Hazardous Waste Collection – May 16th

I. Adjournment – Upon motion by Priscilla, second by Phil, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

The next meeting of the Saucon Valley Partnership is Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at Hellertown Borough.

***Note new meeting time is 6:00 pm**