

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 9, 2012

- A. Call to Order – Leslie Huhn – 7:00 p.m.
- B. Present – Ed Inghrim, Priscilla deLeon, Tom Rieger, John Bate, Cathy Kichline, Leslie Huhn, Lanita Lum and Camille Bartlett.
- C. Council of Governments
1. Adoption of Council of Governments Minutes

Motion made by John Bate, seconded by Priscilla deLeon, to approve the April 11, 2012, meeting minutes as written. Motion unanimously carried.
 2. Treasurer’s Report

Ms. Huhn – The fund balance as of April 30, 2012, is \$16,957.79. The checking account balance as of March 31, 2012 is \$3,871.13. There were no receipts.

Motion made by Priscilla deLeon, seconded by Thomas Rieger, to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion unanimously carried.
 3. Approval to Pay Bills – There were no bills to be paid.
- D. Brief Reports and Discussion Items
1. Casino Impacts Funding/County Gaming Authority- Update

Ms. Kichline – Hellertown Borough had a questions and answer session. We applied for two Police Officers. The grants will be awarded on May 21, 2012.
 2. Joint COG Projects (Saucon Rail Trail; Peer Recreation Study Committee) – Update
 - a. Rails to Trails – There was nothing to report.
 - b. Peer Recreation

Mr. Rieger – The recreation survey is available to try. It is not live yet. There is a disqualifier on this version which will not allow a resident from outside Hellertown Borough or Lower Saucon Township to complete the survey.
 3. Roads & Traffic (Polk Valley Road/412 Intersection HOP Application) – Update – There was nothing to report.
 4. Saucon Valley Compost Center – Update

Ms. Huhn – There have been 799 ID Cards issued between Hellertown Borough and Lower Saucon Township. There have been 114 loads of mulch taken.
Mr. Rieger – Perhaps in the future, we could look into getting plastic ID Cards. I have received a few complaints that the cards are going through the wash or getting torn.
 5. Fire Services – Update – There was nothing to report.

6. Library Task Force – Update – There was nothing to report.

7. Regional Police Study – Update

Ms. Kichline – There is a meeting on May 23, 2012, at the Saucon Valley High School Cafeteria at 4:00 p.m.

Ms. deLeon – The State will not release the study until the meeting.

Mr. Bate – Can anyone attend?

Ms. Kichline – Yes, it is a public meeting.

Mr. Rieger – The full report of the study will be available on the website the following day.

8. Other Issues

1. Emergency Management

Mr. Inghrim – We haven't really worked on this issue.

Mr. Rieger – We are looking into attending a course provided by Ready Call.

2. Allentown NIZ – There was nothing new to report.

Ms. Kichline – Council did send a letter to PSAB and asked for their support of this issue. I did not receive a direct response from them but did begin to get a lot of inquiries from other Boroughs.

3. Keystone Collections/Act 32

Ms. deLeon expressed some concerns with Keystone Collections and their website.

Mr. Inghrim will take the concerns to the next TCC meeting.

F. County Report

1. County Bridge #15 (Meadows Road Bridge) – There was nothing to report.

Ms. Bartlett – Everyone should have received a Solid Waste and Recycling Survey sent by Lori Sywensky. The deadline for comments is May 25, 2012.

G. New Business

a. Tax Collection Options – Cathy Gorman, LST Director of Finance – This item was tabled.

b. Vince O'Domski – Director of Community Outreach – U.S. Congressman Charlie Dent – Regional Issues and Initiatives

Ms. Kichline introduced Vince O'Domski.

Mr. O'Domski – I am here to get an idea of the municipalities concerns and initiatives that I may take back to Congressman Dent.

Mr. Inghrim – I believe Washington should stay out of the business of education. This is better left to the local school boards. I do not feel that the issue is funding but rather that the funds are being diverted to other areas other than the intended purpose.

Ms. deLeon – The Partnership is the three municipalities getting together to discuss mutual concerns, projects, and problems.

The municipalities would like better information on grant opportunities.

Discussion ensued on the Meadows Road Bridge. Mr. O’Domski was going to get networking information to Lower Saucon Township on a similar bridge in Montgomery County.

Ms. deLeon – We do not want the bridge taken down. We want it repaired and preserved.

Mr. O’Domski – I will look into this but I do not think there is any money currently available for historic use.

Ms. Kichline – I had previously spoken to Mr. O’Domski about some of the initiatives that Hellertown Borough is trying to accomplish and some of the barriers we are facing. We just learned that our pool has to be brought up to new ADA codes. Our pool doesn’t make any money. It is there for the community. It will cost us a lot of money to put in a lift.

Mr. Rieger – The same thing happened with the ramps by Borough Hall. We explained to PennDOT that we would be ripping out the ramps this summer but they still spent the money to put them in.

Ms. Kichline – I would also like to see an increase in CDBG monies.

H. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items – There were no Citizen comments.

I. Calendar of Events

- Ms. deLeon – May 18, 2012, the Chamber will be holding a banquet honoring Csencsits Auto.
- May 23, 2012, will be a Business Spot Light and Happy Hour at Saucon View from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.
- June 5, 2012, Silver Creek Country Club will be hosting a Network Mixer from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.
- July 22-28, 2012, will be Restaurant Week.
- June 2, 2012, is the Hellertown Community Yard Sale
- June 18, 2012, the Community Center will be honoring Carol Schneider at SE-WY-CO Fire Hall.
- September 15, 2012, is the Barn Tour.
- August 18, 2012, is Community Day

Ms. Kichline – The flags for the Patriot Project have been hung along Main Street. We have 28 flags so far and are still accepting sponsorships.

J. Adjournment

Motion made by Lanita Lum, seconded by Priscilla deLeon, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.