

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 13, 2020
Hellertown Borough via Zoom

- A. Call to Order** – Priscilla deLeon called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Tom Carocci & Kristen Stauffer are present at the meeting. Due to the Sunshine Law, they can ask questions, but cannot participate in the discussion.
- B. In Attendance** – Leslie Huhn (LST), Priscilla deLeon (LST), Jason Banonis (LST), Tom Carocci (LST), Kristen Stauffer(LST), Carolyn Yagle (EPD), Cathy Hartranft (HB), Phil Weber (HB), Mike Karabin (SVSD), Sandra Miller (SVCD), Mark Hartney (NC). Guests: Jerry Holum, Stephanie Brown
- C. Council of Governments**
1. Treasurer’s Report – Fund balance ending April 30, 2020 is \$10,908.52. Bills were paid at the last meeting for EPD and \$250.00 was received from Northampton County for their dues. Phil Weber made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report presented by Leslie Huhn. Jason Banonis seconded. All Agreed.
 2. Approval of bills – Leslie Huhn presented an invoice from EDP dated March 11, 2020 in the amount of \$4,843.41 and May 7, 2020 in the amount of \$548.02. Upon motion by Phil Weber, second by Jason Banonis, the bills were approved.
- D. Business Items**
1. Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan – Carolyn Yagle presented a projection of the Comprehensive Plan. One item that still needs to be included is the Sustainability section, which communities have gone through, Lower Saucon accumulated 101 points. The table of contents and the order of information will appear on the left side of the screen. When in a particular section, you will always be able to return back to the “home” section. There are links to ADA booklet, stormwater management, each watershed, etc. Over time, additional data will be able to be entered. There is information as it relates to the traffic volumes – PennDOT data can be updated into the attribute table & the map will adjust to the new data. Priscilla asked how the traffic data will help since there is potential for 2 developments. Carolyn answered that shape files can be added on & then you can tie in their reports. You can take that layer and populate those attributes in any way that you would want them to formulate, whether it be shape files, parcel level information, etc. If municipalities want to have that data accessible at administrative level for analysis, you are able to assign permissions of that particular information. You can determine what is relevant to the public. The two Managers of the municipalities would be the gatekeepers for it. This program started as Sustainable Pittsburgh and it has been thriving for years. When they started to get the participation at the municipal levels around here, they changed the name to Sustainable PA. She asked how the municipalities would like to move forward with this plan. She had a public meeting two weeks ago for a comprehensive plan & zoning ordinance via Zoom which was advertised. Priscilla asked what the timeline is. Carolyn suggested meeting in June to go over items that need to be resolved/questions answered and July or August could be the public meeting. Discussion was made about the public having access to hard copies of the plan since the offices are still closed to the public.
 2. Pipeline Updates – No updates at this time.
- E. Brief Reports and Discussion Items**
1. **Grants** – Hellertown is applying to DCED for the greening of the swale that goes through Dimmick Park. They did receive a DCNR grant last year, so they are going to use that as the match, if awarded.

2. **Joint COG Projects** – No updates at this time.
3. **Roads & Traffic** –
 - a. Easton Road/Cherry Lane/Ringhoffer Road – Hellertown has been in contact with PennDOT in regards to Easton Road. PennDOT has agreed to put up an I78 directional sign at Easton & Cherry to direct the trucks to Route 412 instead of through Hellertown Borough. Due to COVID, the sign manufacturers aren't working, so it may be a little while until they receive it.
 - b. PennDot Roads – Lower Saucon has UGI doing some night work on Route 378.
4. **Saucon Valley Compost Center** – It is open now, with hours from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Once things move from the red phase to the yellow phase, they may go back to regular hours.
5. **Meadows Road Bridge** – Skelly & Loy will be attending the Historic Register Nomination meeting on June 2, 2020. Anyone can participate in the meeting, it will be held via Zoom. Mr. Banonis asked if there was any update from PennDOT on their progress of their work and their design in terms of rehabilitating or replacing it. Mrs. Huhn said that she has not heard anything lately from PennDOT. She did hear from the county that they are looking at the reports, but have not made any determinations.
6. **Northampton County Report** – Mr. Hartney informed all that the Northampton County Small Business Relief Fund that is being administered through the Rising Tide still has money left in there and an application can be downloaded through Rising Tide. If funds run out, he is hoping that they receive more. He would like everyone to promote with the local businesses. They can receive up to a \$15,000 line of credit at zero percent interest for the next year and either a balloon payment will be due at the end of the year or the loan will be negotiated into a term loan at market rates. Hotel tax & CIPP grants for next year may not have a competitive round. The casino & table games revenues due to casinos being closed and hotels down 75%, there won't be revenue coming from there. They did receive approximately \$2 million in HUD funding for COVID disaster relief. The climate event scheduled has been canceled.
7. **Greystone Group** – Mrs. deLeon reported that in Lower Saucon, Lou Pektor is interested in buying the properties for warehouses between Mockingbird Hill Road and Beechwood Court, across the street from current warehouses. He is asking for a zoning change.
8. **Steel Club** – Mrs. deLeon reported that Lower Saucon has been presented with their plans for townhouses. They have increased the lots by 39 units. The information can be found on their website. It will probably go in front of the Planning Commission in June. Steel Club will be reaching out to Hellertown in the future since the homes are adjacent to the borough.
9. **Supporting Senator Boscola Efforts to Move Northampton County from the Red Phase to the Yellow Phase** – Mr. Banonis said he will be introducing a Resolution during the Lower Saucon Township Council meeting on May 20, 2020 to ask Council to support Senator Boscola's efforts to persuade Governor Wolf to move us from the red phase to the yellow phase.

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

G. **Events Calendar**

1. Music in the Park Concerts – Canceled
2. Community Day – Canceled

I. **Adjournment** – Upon motion by Mike Karabin, seconded by Phil Weber the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.