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2
3 **Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting**
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5 Date: May 14, 2008
6 Time: 7:00 PM
7 Location: Lower Saucon Township
8

9 A. **Call to Order:** Ed Inghrim

10
11 B. **Roll Call:** Present: Ed Inghrim, Glenn Kern, Priscilla deLeon, Mayor Fluck, Jane Balum, Susan Baxter,
12 Charlie Luthar, Jack Cahalan. Guests: Gail Noff, Margie Segaline, Margie George, Deven Dougherty, Steve
13 Mamay, Derek Garcia, Shawn Kozak, Renee Brader, Dan Butler, Zac Chunko
14

15 C. **Council of Governments**
16

- 17 1. Approval of Minutes - Priscilla said where it says the next meeting is at the Saucon Valley School
18 District is on May 14. We rotate our meetings and tonight it's at the Lower Saucon Township. The
19 minutes of the April 9, 2008 meeting were approved following a motion by Priscilla with this correction
20 seconded by Ed.
21 2. Treasurers Report - Jack said the balance in the checking account as of April 30, 2008, is \$35,950.35.
22 There was a payment approved for Environmental Planning and Design for \$4,215.68. The Treasurer's
23 account balance as of April 30, 2008 is \$8,930.55. There was a payment to Lower Saucon Township for
24 \$60 for the transcriptionist. On a motion by Priscilla, seconded by Jane, the Partnership voted to approve
25 the Treasurers Reports. Priscilla said our money is sitting there and making no interest. Is there anyway
26 we can make any interest? Jack said he has prepared a Summary of the Funding for the Multi-Municipal
27 Comprehensive Plan which will explain where we are with our funding. There is approximately
28 \$19,682.63 left to pay in our contract with EPD. Our current balance with the funding from the LUPTAP
29 grant and additional funding we received is \$35,350.35 with \$751 still due for a balance of \$36,701.35.
30 Once we pay off the \$19,682.63 on the EPD contract, they'll be a remaining balance of \$17,018.72.
31 Carolyn said that the upcoming meetings in June and September are covered under these funds. If there's
32 a desire to add additional meetings beyond what is anticipated beyond September, that's something we
33 could talk to you about. If we have extra reimbursable expenses, would we be able to use those expenses,
34 we can certainly do that.
35 3. Jack had a bill for \$60.00 for Diane Palik for transcription services for the April. On a motion by Glenn
36 seconded by Susan, the bill for \$60 from Diane Palik was approved.
37

38 D. **Citizens Commenting on Agenda Items:** Nothing
39

40 E. **Citizens Commenting on Non-Agenda Items:**

41 Jack said that Mrs. Jane Finger, who had appeared at the Township Council meeting on behalf of the
42 skateboarders could not attend the meeting tonight but sent in a statement that she wanted me to read at the
43 meeting:
44

45 "I am unable to attend the meeting tonight, but would like to say a few words once again on behalf of our
46 neglected athletes. "the skateboarders". Consideration has been given to soccer, football and baseball players,
47 yet this group is continually passed by. I also believe that we are missing the mark by visualizing a large and
48 costly park, while the basic need for skateboarders is a SAFE place to go! The group I have been meeting
49 with already have some start-up equipment and ideas for ground rules and maintenance, and are willing to
50 cooperate to make it a workable project. Their answer to a reporter's question as to why they skate...."it's our
51 anti-drug and anti-stress activity", which says a lot! So, I ask you to please give serious thought to providing
52 an area where they are able to pursue their sport safely!! Thank you, Jane Finger."
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Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

1 A spokesman for the skateboarders, Zac Chunko, said they went to Hellertown Council meeting and went to
2 the Lower Saucon Council meeting. Lower Saucon told them to come to the SVP meeting to discuss a
3 skateboard park. Zac showed the SVP a sketch of the skate park. Zac said he designed it basically from the
4 park in Allentown. He said there's a bunch of ramps and three stationary ones that look like a pyramid.
5 There is a bank which is a slope about 16 foot high and four foot wide. There is a fence and storage shed.
6 Priscilla said when you say fenced in, is it locked for hours, like after dusk, when you can't use it or is it just
7 fenced in? The skateboarder said it's just fenced in. They would need a company to come in and build the
8 ramps for insurance reasons. He talked to the guy who opened the Nazareth Park and you'd have to go
9 through insurance personnel. Nazareth's is a lot more expensive, over \$100,000.00. Priscilla said would this
10 be something for Polk Valley Park? Glenn said we discussed this at Council and there is no room there.
11 We'd have to look for other land for this skate park. The one in Allentown is the size of two tennis courts.
12 Someone suggested that we could put it up more towards Wassergass. The skateboarder said they would
13 appreciate this park very much. A member said someone should do some investigation on the internet and
14 find out how much one of these parks costs. Susan said there might be someone in the building industry who
15 might want to donate some of their time, which would be a great help. Jack said that Mrs. Finger mentioned
16 at a previous meeting that a Bob Noctor and the representative from the LV Outlawz offered financial help
17 with the facility. Glenn asked if anyone knew of any abandoned tennis courts? A skateboarder mentioned the
18 tennis courts at the Silver Creek Country Club. Glenn said that's an interesting thought. Ed said it's a shame
19 Polk Valley Park, which is right next to the school, doesn't have room. Priscilla said we have to look at all
20 the needs of the community. Not everyone wants to play those sports. Ed said that the school added lacrosse
21 and it's very expensive, but there's a lot of interest in that sport. The skateboarders should come back with
22 cost figures and a potential location(s). Keep working on it. The skateboarder said they skateboard by
23 DiMaio's. Mayor Fluck said he was down there one time when the kids were skateboarding and the next
24 thing you knew one of them flew into a car parked at the Saucon Valley Diner. It just didn't seem like it was
25 safe there and didn't seem like a place to skateboard. Glenn said that's exactly why they are here. A SVP
26 member asked the skateboarders, if there was a charge for a facility, would you still go to it? The
27 skateboarders said yes, they now pay \$25.00 for three hours at another skate park. They will keep working
28 on it and come back with more information. Priscilla said she was quite impressed the kids came here and
29 came after their dream.
30

31 **F. Saucon Valley Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan**

32
33 **a. Draft Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan**

34 Carolyn said the comments that were received; they are correcting the draft so it is ready for the June 30
35 public meeting. What's going to be forthcoming is the full draft, parts 1 and 2, which we started last
36 month and we have part 3 which is all of the background mapping, economic analysis and demographics.
37 She wants to extend the conversation about some of the items that we touched on, but could or could not
38 go further with. She will give a recap about where we are. We have put together an outline that has three
39 components. The first component looks at the opportunities and challenges. What's out there and how it's
40 impacting potential development. We have the ten goals back from wintertime. We get into the
41 recommendations and there's the future land use plan, the infrastructure, the civic amenities, business
42 development, economic development and regional relationships. Part 2 gets into the action plan. She
43 brought an updated version of that. There are a few that are goal oriented. In Part 3 we get into all the
44 existing conditions, the mapping and all of the tables. We're on our way to putting this overall draft
45 together. One of the things we want to think about in this discussion, was a little bit more about energy, a
46 little bit more about potential for zoning, a little bit more about the parking and some of the infrastructure
47 things in downtown Hellertown, and lastly, the cultural resource component which was public comment
48 at the last meeting. How can we use our cultural resources as a backbone of moving our economic
49 development opportunities?
50

51 Priscilla said Ed Inghrim's name is spelled wrong. Carolyn said she will correct it. Carolyn said she'd
52 like to talk about the energy component and part of the empty seat, in the municipalities planning code

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

1 and comprehensive plan. One of the components they suggest, but don't get specific about, is what is the
2 proposal for promoting energy efficiency which would be in the community or in the region, whoever
3 made the draft of the comprehensive plan. We have gotten into the discussions of infrastructure, water
4 and that type of coordination. In terms of future growth and where and how it will occur, consideration
5 for all three entities, the Borough, the Township and the School District to be leaders and models of
6 promoting energy efficient design as well as not only the buildings, but the site design and materials.
7 You are the guiding bodies. If the development community is coming to you or experiencing your
8 facilities, is it possible or favorable that you will be able to demonstrate the concepts. We would like to
9 talk about that within the plan. Why we are bringing this up is it's not only because of the sustainability
10 and it's a great word, but what's happening is how many of you may be familiar with the U.S. Green
11 Building Council? They are leading in the development community through a process called LEED
12 which is Leadership, Energy and Environmental Design. There are ways in which development can go
13 through improving their output or minimizing their output of resources that they are consuming. In
14 LEED standards, there is one for existing buildings, retrofitting them as there are a lot of existing
15 structures here that have the opportunity for redevelopment. There are standards for new structure. There
16 is actually a whole arm of standards for schools. There's also a neighborhood development set of
17 standards. They have silver, gold, and platinum ratings. They now have studied 1,300 buildings that
18 have come in through this process. What they have recognized, of those 1,300 of those buildings that
19 have gone through things like light bulbs, wallboard or the type of wallboard may be another, efficiency
20 of the HVAC system and natural light. They have found that it's, on average, 20% to 30% reduction on
21 energy consumed in these structures. It's because of the technology or the materials used. For years, she
22 lived in a town house where she shared both walls with other structures. She was happy with what she
23 was spending. Recently, she moved into a home with two bathrooms rather than one, and her water bill
24 is at least 10% less than her previous home with one bathroom as well as the energy star appliance.
25 That's a very small example, but it's one unit as well. When you multiply that, there is opportunity for
26 redevelopment in the Borough or the township or school facilities that may expand if the population
27 expands. Being able to draw upon those types of principals, or LEED, by considering LEED standards
28 into the new structures or the redevelopment, think what the underlying concept of this would be. Being
29 able, as a region, you can lead by example and be a region well beyond your neighbors that could
30 promote this type of thing.

31
32 Margie George said today they had a meeting with a man that came into their church. Is there any kind
33 of license for this LEED? Carolyn said it's an accredited profession. They go through a test of sorts and
34 then there are architects, engineers, interior designs, it's all different types. There are many thousands of
35 people in the directory. They are listed on the internet. She will forward the link to the group. The
36 purpose talking about this is to plant a seed in desires of the community to pursue something of this and
37 then promoting it to the development community. It can be incorporated into the zoning ordinances. Not
38 necessarily as a requirement, but it's encouraged. There's lot of different ways it can be implicated. We
39 talked about the natural resource components and the network of greenways.

40
41 Carolyn said as part of the comprehensive planning process, it would remain very general. It could set
42 the stage again for your more detailed ordinances down the road to any degree you would want to pursue
43 things.

44
45 Ed said everyone is cautious about the cost of energy and need to conserve. How do you take this
46 concept and drive it down to the local level, like the municipal plan? How do we localize these kinds of
47 things? Carolyn said in terms of localizing this, it is the degree to which you want to require that certain
48 things happen in development and requiring it through specific provisions. Can you plant the seed as part
49 of the comp plan and start to pursue that. The first step would be the most effective and transfer it to the
50 local level would be to put it in an ordinance.

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

1 Priscilla said she's kind of confused. We have a comprehensive plan and the buzz words in there are
2 health, safety and welfare of the residents. She cares very much when we send the plans to our fire
3 companies and they write back and say this subdivision is going in Wassergass and we don't have fire
4 hydrants out there, so we want you to put in underground tanks. The developer says we can't afford that.
5 We have a recommendation by our fire company, but we can't force the developer to do that.
6

7 Carolyn said first consider and evaluate and pursue these types of efforts. We then translate this into you
8 as the public bodies, who have made a commitment, that you are very interested in this. The long term
9 benefit is the cost for operating the school facilities, in terms of everyday operational maintenance were
10 able to be reduced because your bills are less and you are able to take those monies and put them to the
11 programs, that would be great.
12

13 Ed said the school district has a strategic plan, and as part of that plan, we are addressing the efficiency of
14 the school building. Unfortunately, our high school is an all electric building. Carolyn said incorporating
15 this concept into this document if the township and borough are interested at the local level, being able to
16 formalize who is providing these types of standards, or who can be the one that you all go to. We're not
17 just making these provisions. There are standards out there that everyone throughout the nation is able to
18 follow. The question of participation or potential resistance of that, in terms of putting it into an
19 ordinance saying it's an incentive base suggestion. You can't go and say you shall do this, unless there is
20 an incentive for the developer in some way to do it. If it comes down to water, and supply and demand,
21 or access, if the homes are designed in such ways they are going to draw a certain level of water versus
22 another level of water because they've incorporated incentives, the cost for maybe doing the other
23 improvements related to the fire.....Priscilla interrupted and said she was using it as an example of
24 something written in the comp plan and then implementing it in the application.
25

26 (The discussion was interrupted here for the discussion with the skateboarders - See agenda item E.)
27

28 Getting back to the draft of the Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan, Carolyn said she just wants to
29 touch on a couple of the other topics. They will put something together in terms how they can address
30 this by promoting that to the public and what the benefits are and what the challenges are so further down
31 the road it can be evaluated. She wants to talk about using the civic and historical resources you have
32 now as a basis for spurring future economic development. She wants to ask you when that comment was
33 brought up, were there specific resources that came to your mind in planting the seed about what that
34 means now and how you build upon it in the future. Gail said that she attended the meeting that Majestic
35 Realty had the other day to introduce their plans for the development of the LVIP land and that will have
36 a huge impact on us. Priscilla said now we know the casinos are definitely coming. We need to promote
37 this area because as people are promoting the casinos, people will look at this area and we want to be
38 positive and this will have a huge impact on Saucon Valley. The traffic is going to be horrendous. Like
39 the restaurant guide the Chamber put out, there should be something else as a follow up to promote
40 places to go. Carolyn said we can compile all these resources and it's related to one another in different
41 places. There is so much involvement on a weekly or seasonal basis and there's a lot out there. Priscilla
42 said she was reading, in an article, that Hellertown wanted to do a parkway from the Grist Mill. Charlie
43 said, do you mean the SEPTA line? Priscilla said yes, when Society Hill was first presented to the
44 township back in 1988, they were considering giving the township the Heller Homestead. Judy Maisch
45 was the township historian at that time and when she went to the Northampton County Historical Society
46 in Easton, they said you have a perfect corridor. You have the Homestead, you have the Grist Mill, if
47 there was someway to link the two, and here it is 20 years later you're developing this trail along the
48 creek. Carolyn said from not only awareness of everyone who lives here, but being able to draw people
49 in and communicate to people. Glenn said things like the Farmers Market, etc., folks coming in, they
50 love stuff like that. Carolyn said do you have a house tour day? Margie Segaline said that the Woman's
51 Club used to do a house tour in December but they discontinued it because they did not have enough
52 volunteers to run it.

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

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2 Margie Segaline said they've gone on websites for different locals, and on the side bar, it has local
3 attractions, school systems, etc. She pushes local attractions and that brings her on another page. Is this
4 something we can do for Hellertown and Lower Saucon? There was a short discussion about the
5 attractions at the Lost Caves. Carolyn asked, how many people know about them? Priscilla said she has a
6 link to the Lost Caves on the Conservancy's website and on her blogspot. You click on a city's website
7 and you are coming in an area within 25 miles and attractions will come up. You have to keep up with the
8 website though. Carolyn said the formal position we were talking about earlier, they would be able to
9 keep up with the website, etc. Priscilla said she can see this being so overwhelming and sometimes the
10 bigger the government gets the right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing. When we started
11 talking over the years, Hellertown and Lower Saucon, and when we got together and started meeting as
12 groups, then grew into a COG, she doesn't remember it getting this big. We are supposed to come here,
13 have meetings, talk about what's going on, smooth over wrinkles. Okay, then we said let's try and help
14 the communities by doing the comprehensive plan. Jane said she thought it's really getting complex.
15 Carolyn said why? Jane said it's almost too involved. She said you want to develop the Main Street
16 corridor and you want to restrain development in certain areas, but, she thinks it's getting almost too far
17 reaching. Gail said he's not sure what your mission is, but Hellertown and Lower Saucon are intertwined
18 and we do need to address the changes that are occurring. Priscilla said she's not against change, but to
19 hire this person, someone is going to have to pay to do that. When she looks at these services, it's the
20 township, the borough and the school district. She doesn't see it going beyond that, because then we are
21 duplicating services. There's certain things a Park and Rec Board should do. She doesn't know how far
22 this could go and where the money is going to come from. We started this COG saying we were going to
23 reduce taxes and we're going to try to reduce expenses. Ed said that the school district saved money by
24 having the township and borough public works help out with the paving of their parking lots.

25
26 Jack said it's really up to what the Borough, the Township and the school district wants to do in the
27 future. This is just a recommendation in the plan. If the bodies do not want to move forward on this, then
28 we are not under any commitment
29

30 Susan said Hellertown is building up big with all these things happening and we need to start to plan it.
31 Priscilla said she's not saying that we shouldn't plan. Ed said he thought this group came together, as a
32 COG so that we would have opportunities that would be available to us in terms of zoning and planning
33 that would not be available if we were "lone rangers". Glenn said that is the whole idea of this group: to
34 take advantage of those opportunities. Ed said if we are to take advantage of those opportunities, we have
35 to decide as a group how much further do you want to go? Glenn said if we don't know what those
36 opportunities are, we are never going to know. Priscilla said she just wants to know who's paying?
37 Glenn said that's putting the cart way before the horse. First you have to know what we're talking about.
38 That's why we are getting together each month to talk.
39

40 Jack said part of the planning process is to identify opportunities and resources. After we are done with
41 EPD, the group needs to decide if you want to move to the next step. Priscilla said she doesn't want to
42 set up for failure. Carolyn said there's a difference in the way a plan is presented, for example, here is a
43 recommendation and here are the pluses and here are the minuses. You decide what you want to do and
44 you have to evaluate this. We need to get to your list and that's where this starts to ripple. From the
45 perspective of where does this group want to go...a half an hour ago, when there were eight people
46 sitting here who were recommended by the individual communities to come to the Partnership because
47 this is beyond what one of us can resolve, so they said go to the Partnership and they can discuss this.
48 Recreation, 24 months ago, from a deeper discussion point, probably wasn't on the list. So, what you are
49 also saying or the impression in the community is showing that the Partnership has interest in trying to
50 put all the issues on the table to get the discussion going. It does not mean that the Partnership has to
51 make the decisions. Your role is to say let's beat this out a little bit and then make a recommendation as
52 to what's happening. It's a success versus a failure that comes out of the plan. As long as the

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

1 Partnership's underlying mission remains the same, she can't see how it can fail. Gail said that she sees
2 the Partnership as a filtering agent for ideas and discussion which is very valuable to the communities.
3

4 Ed said that he and Susan were talking and the school does have web design classes that may be of some
5 help. They will look in this further. Priscilla said that then maybe they could do the community page that
6 Margie was talking about. Margie said she has seen advertisements on the websites she is talking about
7 and wonders if that is how they pay for them?
8

9 Carolyn said there was a discussion about the funding and where is this all going. About the skateboard
10 group that came in here, this Partnership said if you come back with some costs, do you know some
11 concrete people, do you know this, etc. We may have to do the leg work, and from a cost perspective,
12 you get some other entities. Carolyn said that leads into the meeting that Jack and Charlie had with the
13 DCED representative.
14

15 Margie George said she's on the Hellertown Enhancement Committee. She asked would it help if when
16 they have their meetings, they let you know what we are doing? Are there other committees that you guys
17 are on that could do the same thing? Priscilla, said for example, she's involved with the SV Conservancy,
18 so at the end of the Partnership meeting, she say the Barn Tour is coming up September 13, everyone
19 write that down or just a little blurb here and there if we know of something that is coming up in the
20 community. Margie said she doesn't think there is anything wrong if we let you guys know what we are
21 doing. Ed said we should give Margie a copy of the draft comp plan and you should certainly come to the
22 public meeting on June 30th. Jack said that there group is one of the invited stakeholder groups.
23

24 b. **June 30th Public Meeting**

25 Ed said he's not available for this meeting. He has to go to a family reunion in Missouri. Carolyn said
26 the outline for the 30th discussion is presenting the goals and primary recommendations and talk about the
27 concept of the action plan and really what the top seven or eight next steps that are anticipated to be
28 worked on, whether they are small or big steps, what we can relay to the residents and get our comments
29 from them and reflecting what they said previously about their concerns. Charlie said if it's going to be
30 June 30, you can put out an announcement. It's at the school district in the Audion room. Priscilla will
31 put it on her blog spot. Jack said it's from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Carolyn said like last time, if people
32 would like to stay and share additional information, we can do that. Priscilla said advertise it and the
33 group said you can say light refreshments. Carolyn said we can talk about opportunities that are being
34 evaluated.
35

36 Carolyn said there are many things in this plan that are specific, and there are other things that are not, so
37 you can evaluate them as they are also going to change. Priscilla said just word it so we don't set
38 ourselves up for failures.
39

40 Carolyn said at the June 30th meeting, we can have the public look at the draft comp plan, and then it will
41 be available for their review. We'll lay out the schedules as well as the time periods that are necessary.
42

43 Glenn asked Carolyn are you going to be here at the June 11 meeting? Carolyn said yes. He said he has
44 a suggestion. At that meeting, as part of the agenda, he'd like to have an open and frank discussion
45 focusing on the joint zoning opportunities and he'd like to explore that more fully so we can fully address
46 all the issues and what's involved, whether it's something we want to get involved in. Priscilla said don't
47 you think that is premature? Glenn said no, he does not think it premature. Carolyn said she doesn't
48 think it's premature as in terms of the comprehensive plan, we have the understanding, that yes there are
49 challenges, would it be of any help if we would prepare a common instance that occurs so that you guys
50 can have that and we can work through that as well. Jack said also that we will ask Carolyn to identify
51 municipalities who have adopted joint zoning who we can check with for the pros and cons on their
52 experience with it. The group said yes, that would be helpful.

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

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2 c. **Closeout of the LUPTAP Grant; DCED Grant Application for Implementation Steps**

3 Jack said that one of the things that he and Charlie started to work on was the implementation steps that
4 would be required after the Comprehensive Plan is adopted by all of the bodies. There are action items in
5 the comp plan for future work. Jack said that he and Charlie put together a draft list of the priority items
6 that we would like to see implemented after the comp plan is adopted. In order to work on these items we
7 would need to hire a planning consultant and to pay them we would need additional grant funding from
8 DCED. To begin working on the grant process, Jack said that he and Charlie met with the DCED
9 representative, Cindy Campbell, who replaced Ed LeClear. We sat down and brainstormed with her and
10 came up with the list of issues that he handed out. This is a first draft in this process. Starting off is an
11 open space and recreation plan which DCED will help out with funding and this could be the basis for
12 funding for a regional recreation coordinator. Also, the regional transportation plan, we touched on traffic
13 issues. Hellertown business revitalization we also listed. Jack gave out a handout which is an excerpt
14 from the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) and which deals with the options available for Joint
15 Zoning. There are several choices available. We don't have to go with one Zoning Hearing Board; each
16 municipality can keep their own. We just wanted to bring this to your attention. The regional 537 plan,
17 we'll look at this and see where the township and borough stand. School plan studies dealing with issues
18 of enrollment and infrastructure are also on this list. This is the first step to pull this together. Jack said
19 that if we want to hire a new consultant to work with us on these items we do not have to go through the
20 RFP process. Priscilla said that's because the Township Code for professional services doesn't have to
21 go out for bid. Jack said this was just the first shot at a list of priorities. Carolyn is going to look at it.
22 Priscilla said these items aren't prioritized. Carolyn said keep in mind, in one example of another
23 community that went for grants. At first, there was sub discussion on how much should we do. One of
24 their ideas was we can always ask for it and if we don't get it, and we don't get it. If we ask for an
25 amount that may be more than we think, we may have a chance of getting at least a portion of that. It has
26 worked for that community in every instance. And the reason is because it's part of a multi municipal
27 effort. They point to all successes they have done step by step. Keeping that in mind, if the numbers are
28 not realistic, however, don't let the potential unknowns hold you back. With the DCNR, there are monies
29 left over every year in the grant cycle that people don't think is available, but it is. It's never used.
30 Priscilla said the first item on the chart, the Joint Open Space Plan, the township did do a plan with Upper
31 Saucon but it's shelved. She hates doing studies and then they get shelved. It's like sometimes she feels
32 we're behind. You don't want to stop progress while we are doing this plan and we need to keep going,
33 and it's like all these things are going to merge. She doesn't want to be critical, she wants to be realistic.

34
35 Carolyn said if you need anything from us related to the closeout of the LUPTAP Grant please let them
36 know.

37
38 G. **Brief Reports and Discussion Items**

39
40 1. **Casino Impacts Funding – update**

41 Jack said on the casino impact funding, we are waiting for the County to make some decisions about the
42 authority, etc. We are also hoping that they will make a recommendation on our proposal. Glenn said he
43 can provide a little bit of an update. He was in Florida at the time and from the golf course, he called
44 Tom Nolan, from Bethlehem Township and he could tell it was not going to work out. There position
45 was about population, nothing else. Glenn said he asked what about the impacts Bethlehem Township is
46 going to have as a result of the casino and Nolan said it's not about the impacts, it's about the population.
47 He said they should get a bigger piece of the pie. He said that they also felt they were also left out of the
48 loop on this process from the beginning. Jack said that the Partnership had discussed at one point
49 inviting in Bethlehem and Hanover Townships but decided against doing it. They will let you know after
50 the June meeting of the County Casino Impacts Committee what is going on.

51
52 2. **Joint COG Projects**

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

1 Charlie said he'll cover the Compost Center further down on the agenda. Jack said we are working
2 together on joint paving projects and this year the school district was included. Jack said with regard to
3 Upper Saucon Township and the Rails-to-Trails project with SEPTA, we now have a sample lease
4 agreement and the solicitor is going to start working on it. Priscilla said so from Bachman Street to the
5 city there is no rail? Charlie said that is correct and from there to the Crush Crete plant behind Wendy's
6 that section belongs to Norfolk Southern and the City has no plans to run their greenway beyond Saucon
7 Park. Priscilla said remember the time the PennDOT guy came and showed us the 412 plans, didn't he
8 say there was some kind of reconfiguration going to be done at that time? Jack said that with the
9 expansion of 412 that PennDOT will be starting in 2010, it does include a bicycle lane in that area. Jack
10 said we are holding our breath with the rails to trails project, and we are hoping to schedule a public
11 meeting in June. Priscilla said this is another asset for the recreation we were talking about earlier. Jack
12 said it's really a great project.

13
14 3. **Polk Valley Road/Walnut Street intersection enhancements – update**

15 Jack said that the final design for the traffic signal at Polk Valley Road is ready and Charlie, the
16 Township Engineer and himself are going to have a meeting with the new shopping center folks and the
17 new owner of Wayne McCullough's property. Charlie said that the shopping center has to provide three
18 easements. Both McDonalds and Family Services dropped out of the discussions. Charlie said that the
19 Borough has begun work on the Walnut Street intersection. They are currently replacing the boxes and
20 catch basins on both sides and then the traffic signal will be installed.

21
22 4. **Joint Enterprise Zone with City of Bethlehem – update**

23 Charlie said that he tried to reach the representative with the City and hasn't heard back from them.

24
25 5. **Hellertown – Lower Saucon Compost Center – update**

26 Charlie handed out numbers from the Compost Center. The number of people who are visiting the Center
27 is unbelievable. They had a big day on Saturday; 257 people visited the Center. So far this year we are
28 running twice as many visitors as last year. The numbers of Township residents using the Center is also
29 increasing. Charlie said that we will be looking for funding for equipment. The Yard Recycling Waste
30 Committee has been formed and will begin meeting shortly.

31
32 6. **Tax Reassessment – update**

33 Nothing

34
35 7. **Fire Services – update**

36 Nothing

37
38 8. **Leithsville Act 537 Plan – update**

39 Jack said the response to the Borough is being discussed at the township authority. One of the things we
40 want to look at is the whole regional 537 plan. Priscilla said Council talked about the Act 537 plan two
41 meetings ago, and we didn't really talk regional, we were talking about Leithsville, and she said she
42 voiced concerns that Plan B should be looked into for the people who have failing systems and the
43 ground water is being polluted because the systems are being overburdened. She doesn't remember
44 talking about regional, and that shouldn't be holding up the Leithsville Act 537 plan and she'd be upset if
45 that happened as people have been waiting for public sewer for years. This is for the older homes and old
46 lots. It's not for new development. We were very careful where we ended the sewer on 412 South.

47
48 9. **Other Issues**

49 Priscilla had forwarded an email to Ed from Thomas Hart, the County Deputy Director of Administration.
50 He is a liaison between the COGs and he has come up with an idea that he'd like to have a meeting of the
51 four COGs at the same time twice a year to see if there are any common issues or overlaps. They
52 received an invitation wanting to know if we'd be willing to participate in a meeting sometime in June.

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting
May 14, 2008

1 They need a representative from the four COGs. We should attend the meeting to see if there is value in
2 meeting twice a year. Ed said he would personally volunteer to go to this meeting. Priscilla said she'd
3 like to go also. Ed said find out the date and we'll see who can go.
4

5 H. **Event Calendar**

6 <http://sauconvalleycalendar.blogspot.com>

7 Priscilla updated it today. There's a new candy shop in town next to DiMaio's and Quest Lab at the shopping
8 center, Dolce Patisserie. Also, the barn tour is coming up and everyone is more than welcome to attend. Ed
9 said that he finally got to visit Bergstressers Store and it was fascinating.
10

11 I. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. following a motion by Priscilla seconded by Glenn
12 and unanimously approved.
13

14 J. **Next meeting: Wednesday, June 11, 2008 @ 7:00 PM, Saucon Valley School District (July 9 –**
15 **Hellertown, August 13 – LST)**
16
17
18
19
20
21