

1 **SAUCON VALLEY PARTNERSHIP MEETING**

2
3 Date: Wednesday, August 11, 2010
4 Time: 7:00 PM
5 Location: Lower Saucon Township
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8 **A. Call to Order:** The Saucon Valley Partnership meeting was called to order by John Bate at 7:10 PM on
9 August 11, 2010 at Lower Saucon Township.

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11 **B. Roll Call: Present:** John Bate, Chair; Lanita Lum, Priscilla deLeon, Ed Inghrim, Jack Cahalan, and
12 Charlie Luthar.

13
14 Guest: Stephanie Brown
15

16 **C. Council of Governments**

17
18 1. **Minutes of the June meeting** – Motion by Lanita, second by Priscilla to accept the June minutes.
19 All in favor.

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21 2. **Treasurer’s Report** – Jack said he has the June and July Treasury reports. For June, the balance
22 in the Treasurer’s account as of June 30, 2010 was \$11,520.26. There were no receipts or
23 payments out of that account. The checking account for June 30, 2010, the balance was \$3,872.42.
24 There were no receipts or expenses out of that account. For July, the Treasurer’s account, the
25 balance as of July 31, 2010, was \$11,520.26. There were no receipts or payments out of that
26 account. In the checking account for July, the balance as of July 31, 2010 as \$3,872.42. There
27 were no receipts or expenses. Lanita asked if these accounts are not interest-bearing? Jack said no,
28 they are revolving. Motion by Ed, second by Priscilla to approve the June and July 2010
29 Treasurer’s report. All in favor.
30

31 3. **Approval to pay bills (if any):** Jack said there were no bills to pay. We’re anticipating the school
32 district’s payment of \$1,000.00 for dues for 2010 will be forthcoming. Ed asked if the Board
33 approved the DCNR resolution? Charlie said they didn’t approve the resolution yet, but they
34 agreed. Jack said they will be taking it to their Council meeting. Charlie said they had a working
35 session and everyone pretty much agreed.
36

37 **D. Saucon Valley Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan**

38
39 1. **DCED LUPTAP Grant Application** – Update – Jack said in the minutes, we explained at the
40 June meeting that Charlie had spoken to Cindy Campbell, and she had indicated that our LUPTAP
41 application had been turned down. Following that meeting, we did get a notice from DCED and
42 they indicated the grant was denied due to lack of funds at the State level. Charlie had a
43 conversation with Cindy the other day and she was still encouraging them to submit a grant
44 application and to resubmit it. He would like to get everybody’s approval to do that. Charlie said
45 that he asked EPD for an updated cost estimate for the zoning audit that we want to do, so when
46 they have that in hand, they’ll be able to reapply. She’s saying to do it next month. Charlie said
47 that we could also consider this cost for the casino grant round in October. It’s like \$6,000.00 or
48 \$7,000.00. They will get the estimate from EPD.
49

50 **E. Brief Reports and Discussion Items**

51
52 1. **Casino Impacts Funding/County Gaming Authority** – Update – Priscilla said the deadline
53 passed for the restricted funds. Seventeen applications were received. She doesn’t have the
54 breakdown of how many were submitted per municipality. They will be reviewed at the meeting
55 next Monday and they will go over them and the municipalities will then be asked to come to the

1 August and September meeting to give presentations. Hopefully, they will be awarded in the next
2 month. There is money that was left over from 2009, which became uncommitted funds because
3 during the period from September through December 2009 when they were meeting unofficially,
4 the County didn't approve our authority until 2010, and she kept asking what's going to happen
5 with this money. The law says it was supposed to go to the contiguous municipalities. She
6 predicted that this would happen. The Solicitor for the Gaming Authority gave his opinion which
7 she shared with you. When you read the Gaming law, and it says you must and must and must.
8 The first two "musts" you don't have to do, but the third "must" you have to do. When you have
9 laws and the school board says you must do this and the municipalities say you must do this. The
10 County did not do those two things. They did not form the board on time so we couldn't spend the
11 money. It became uncommitted funds. Now that money is going out to all 38 municipalities.
12 They all applied for that. It's like about \$810,000.00. The County should have formed that
13 committee and they didn't. Right now, it's in a big account with the County and is allocated
14 towards the Authority. John said for 2011 and on, there will be no uncommitted funds? Priscilla
15 said depending how much the five of us ask for. Jack said they will only be uncommitted if it's not
16 given out to the contiguous municipalities. John said it won't be like it is this year where you have
17 the \$380,000.00 and then you have the \$800,000.00 that everybody can jump into because the
18 committee wasn't formed. Now the committee is formed and we have \$1.2 million. Priscilla said
19 we should have about that much. Priscilla said there was a discussion several meetings ago about
20 quarters. If the gaming funds received in the last quarter of 2009 were deposited in January of
21 2010, is it 2010 money or 2009 money? They kept saying it's this year's money, and then she
22 asked what is going to happen in January of 2011 as technically that's the last quarter of 2010, so it
23 should be restricted money. If you have quarters and you are receiving quarterly payments, there
24 has to be four of them and they look at her like she's nuts. The County does their fiscal year as a
25 calendar year. Charlie said the Borough would take it as a cash basis. When they get the money,
26 they disburse the money. Priscilla said technically it comes in January; it's technically the year
27 before that money. They have it set up that way. Ed said you said they were going to distribute the
28 money. Priscilla said it's by application. The applications are on the Internet and they have to be
29 in by October 15. Ed said is the application need-based? Priscilla said the application is very
30 specific on what it has to be. John said we could take what we submitted for the restricted round
31 and resubmit the same exact thing. Charlie said the only thing that concerns him about that, they
32 should really extend that deadline. John said his application for Dewey Ambulance is not for a
33 single project. Charlie said suppose you were denied on November 1st? The deadline for these
34 grants is October 14th, so we're like throwing it in the pile to get resubmitted when we don't know
35 if we got it or not. John said so we need to have another completely different project? Charlie
36 said he asked if they could move that deadline to the 15th of November to allow space in between.
37 They didn't get back to him yet. John said that would make a lot of sense because if they don't get
38 it the first time, they come right back and file another application. Charlie said he and Tina went
39 down and spoke to Alicia Karner when they dropped off the Borough and Township applications
40 and they talked about that and they recommended that there be the space in-between. Priscilla said
41 if the two municipalities would like to ask the Authority to reconsider the deadline for the second
42 round of the applications, she would suggest that the two Managers send a letter to the Authority
43 and ask cite the reasons that this is important. Jack said we will bring this up at the Council
44 meeting and get approval. Priscilla said it's a tricky year. For the second round, no casino impacts
45 have to be demonstrated. It has to meet the health, safety and welfare requirements of the gaming
46 act. Jack said they are: human services, public infrastructure, public facilities, emergency services,
47 public health and safety. Motion by John that we take it back to our Councils to have them
48 approve sending a letter to the Gaming Authority asking that the second application deadline be
49 moved back, seconded by Ed. All in favor. Charlie said one thing he wanted to mention about the
50 grant applications, it was interesting for the two communities worked together on them and they
51 submitted 12 of the 17 applications. 70% of the grants were submitted by Hellertown and Lower
52 Saucon. Priscilla said she asked if she could share the numbers with everyone and required a
53 response by their Solicitor to see whether or not she was allowed to publicly say that. They said a
54 letter has to be sent in, so if you have a question, send in a letter.
55

1 2. **Joint COG Projects (Rail-to-Trail; Joint Recreation Study Committee) – Update –**
2

3 **Saucon Rail Trail** – Jack said the Saucon Rail Trail committee took a summer break in July and
4 August. Their next meeting is September 27th in Hellertown. They haven't moved any further
5 with Upper Saucon and Coopersburg. They have not approved the inter-governmental agreement,
6 and they haven't appointed representatives although there are residents from Upper Saucon and
7 Coopersburg who are attending the meetings and participating in the discussions, some are even
8 working on some of the tasks the committee has taken on. Consequently, with the formalization of
9 the committee at a standstill, and also with the lack of any grant funding on the horizon, we have
10 been forced to look to our own municipal budgets for any rail trail development. What they are
11 doing in Lower Saucon and Hellertown is moving ahead to see if they can develop and open our
12 portions of the rail trail in 2010. That's been a struggle on both their ends. He had taken to the
13 Township Council recommendations for a gravel trail surface and wood rail fencing for the bridges
14 and those have been approved and we are in the process of putting out a bid for the fencing. As
15 soon as that comes in, we'll see what it looks like. If it's within their budget, they will take it back
16 to Council for approval and if it's approved, they should be able to get the fence railings put up on
17 the two bridges and the culvert in the trail section that runs from Lower Saucon all the way up into
18 Hellertown. The surface they favor is a no. 9 stone. They still have to determine what the base
19 material will be for the gravel to go on. That is something they are discussing. The two big
20 obstacles are the road crossings at Meadows Road in the Township and the Water Street crossing in
21 Hellertown. There are flashing lights at Water Street and PennDOT is asking that they move one
22 of them across the trail towards Front Street and they are waiting for a cost estimate on that from
23 Signal Service. At the Township's Meadows Road crossing, the recommendation is for flashing
24 lights and they are waiting for approval from PennDOT for that system. There is one person from
25 PennDOT who reviews that and they are waiting for them to get through all the documents. If they
26 give their blessing, then that is what the Planner and Engineer are recommending is the best system
27 for that crossing. They are trying to push ahead as fast as they can. Those two issues have been
28 slowing down the trail development. They hope to have more progress by September on both ends
29 of the trail. Charlie said there's a potential Eagle Scout candidate that has taken on a project to
30 build two kiosks that would be put up in two locations in Hellertown. One is at Walnut Street and
31 one at Water Street. He will be 18 in March, so he has to have the project finished by then. John
32 said they also had a woman come up and offer signs at their Council meeting, plant signs. Charlie
33 said that was Keri Maxfield from the Watershed Association. The signs are for the observations
34 points. They were going to come back with more information. The Eagle Scout will come to
35 Council in September to ask for the okay to locate the kiosks. Roger Jurczak, Caroline Lidie and
36 Steve LaBrake from the Rail trail Committee have been talking to this Eagle Scout. John said
37 shouldn't this group keep a close eye on what they are going to do with the High Street bridge?
38 Won't that affect our rail trail if they close it? Charlie said yes, and Mike Corriere has been in
39 touch with the City of Bethlehem as they are working out an agreement with Norfolk Southern.
40 John said redoing the bridge is okay, but backfilling it won't work. Charlie said the city wants to
41 preserve a trail opening through there that would eventually allow our trail to connect with their
42 greenway. The City's Solicitor, Joe Kelly is the one doing the negotiating, so it should be attorney
43 to attorney.
44

45 **Joint Recreation Study Committee** - update – Jack said Gail Nolf was able to attract a few more
46 of the sports representatives to our last meeting. Joe Hoffman was there and made a good
47 presentation on the DCNR Peer-to-Peer Technical Assistance Grant they would like to submit and
48 that would be to get funding from DCNR to hire a peer consultant, who would be a professional
49 park person, to come in and work with the group, conduct meetings, benchmark with the public and
50 other recreation people and try to pull together all the things they've been talking about since last
51 October. They have this on the agenda for the Township and Charlie has it on the Borough
52 Council agenda, a resolution that will, if it's approved, authorize the submission of a grant
53 application to DCNR for \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 and it will require a match up to \$333.00 by
54 each of the entities. As Ed indicated, they approved the resolution at the school district. Ed said it
55 was a nice presentation and they showed the work that they had done. One of the things they

1 focused on was that this is an opportunity to get the state to put up some money to hire somebody
2 for four or five years and then eventually the school district, borough and township would pick the
3 cost up. He wouldn't suggest we focus on this right now with the school board, it's one thing to
4 say there might be some value in having centralized coordination, but saying do you want to run
5 after state money to hire a body that we eventually have to pick up the salary for is not going to go
6 over very well for some of the school board members and he doesn't think it's necessary because
7 they have a full time athletic director and full time secretary, so between the three of us, we could
8 come up with the resources and hire someone to do this. Charlie Bartolet told him that's exactly
9 what this community used to do in the past. Jack said this grant isn't for that. If we get this grant,
10 it's just to hire a consultant to work with the committee for a 6-12 month period, attend meetings
11 and gather information, and then they will put together a report with a series of recommendations.
12 Usually one of the recommendations will be that we consider hiring a full time recreation director
13 and they suggest state funding that will pay their salary, like you described. That's not what this is
14 about. This is to pull together all the information that we've been trying to do on a monthly basis
15 and then give it back to the Borough Council, Township Council, school board with a series of
16 recommendations, none of which we are required to implement. This is just for information
17 gathering and an expert to help us with that. Lanita said could she have a clarification on the
18 \$333.00 from each entity. Is that coming out of the SVP budget? Jack said that's out of each
19 entity. Charlie said first of all you are going to have a meeting with someone from DCNR and they
20 will go through the process and ask questions and determine how it will function, what do you
21 really want to do. What he's getting at is the cost of it. The total DCNR will fund is \$10,000.00
22 maximum and the maximum we would have to contribute is 10% or \$1,000.00. If it would be
23 \$5,000.00, the \$333.00 would be a lower number. Lanita said why can't it come out of the SVP?
24 Jack said technically if you wanted money to come out of here, you'd have to take a vote on that.
25 Ed said we have \$3,000.00 together from the Borough, Township and the school. Charlie said we
26 didn't discuss that, but just said a local share would have to be discussed. Lanita said the money
27 came from us anyhow. She really thinks that is why we are paying dues, except for the County.
28 Ed said we developed the strategic plan and it came out of the SVP. Why is this any different?
29 Motion by Lanita, second by Priscilla that for the local match required to be put up for this grant,
30 that it be clear the money is coming from the SVP bank account. All in favor. Charlie said the one
31 account that Jack reports, the \$3,800.00. That's the LUPTAP funding we got, that's not the one
32 we're putting the \$1,000.00 into.

- 33
- 34 **3. Roads & Traffic – (Polk Valley Road/412 Intersection HOP Application)** – Jack said nothing to
35 report on. We thought we had some activity going on and then we have heard nothing for the last
36 couple of months. We're going to have to go back to the Engineer and have them contact
37 PennDOT and ask them what's up. He doesn't know what's going on.
38
 - 39 **4. Joint Enterprise Zone with City of Bethlehem** – Update – Charlie said there's nothing further on
40 the enterprise zone. They are still trying to work out their own organization. Priscilla said one
41 time we were there, two years ago, they had mentioned something about the payment of this being
42 the partnership, casino type money. Charlie said the point at that time was to go out for bids for
43 consultants to do that work. He doesn't think the city is squared away in what they are trying to
44 do. They were trying to make some loan arrangements for the enterprise zone and he thinks it was
45 internal. They have the lady on board and she's trying to get things organized at this point. In
46 order to participate, they'd have to amend the existing enterprise document they have with the state
47 because they are no longer approving enterprise zones. They feel the amendment is possible and
48 that's the way we were going to go and that's still available.
49
 - 50 **5. Saucon Valley Compost Center** – Update – Charlie said they are doing great. He has a stack of
51 papers so high tallying the number of people that are coming there. It's amazing. There is at least
52 10% or 15% more participation in the beginning of May than there was last year. There was a lot
53 better participation from the Township. Tom Henshaw is lining up for bids for mulching the pile.
54 We need to do it next week and then one more time at the end of the year.
55

1 **6. Act 32 EIT Tax Collection Districts** – Update – Ed said the big moment is tomorrow when they
2 meet to hear the proposals of three companies that have responded to their RFP for collecting EIT.
3 The companies are Keystone, Berkheimer and then Tri-Company Services. We’re all familiar with
4 Berkheimer. Keystone is a company that originates in the Pittsburgh area, but they have been
5 moving east. They have picked up some clients in the Lehigh County. The third company is
6 basically starting up and has a proposed staff of five. They don’t have any infrastructure, but they
7 have good ideas. These three companies will be presenting to the TCC tomorrow and hopefully
8 they will vote on selecting one of the three. His personal opinion as he represents Hellertown and
9 Lower Saucon, as well as the school district, he would feel extremely uncomfortable in going with
10 a new company that has never been in this business before. The start-up costs and going up and
11 down the learning curve is too much of a risk for the community to take. The two that are in the
12 running are Keystone and Berkheimer. Their bids are very close. The difference between them
13 primarily is that Keystone basically says that the collections are free for delinquent account. In
14 essence, they say they will go after the delinquent accounts for whatever the cost is to recover them
15 whereas Berkheimer said they will charge a certain percentage for the EIT and then a different
16 percentage for collections at a certain rate, and then they have a lower structure for standard EIT
17 with a higher fee for delinquent accounts. You have to guess what you think the rate of
18 delinquency is going to be. Ed said they know it’s going to be higher. Just in Lower Saucon itself,
19 MSF spent a ton of money taking down their entire infrastructure to reduce their property taxes.
20 His view is that the people that serve on the committee are leaning towards Keystone. That puts all
21 of the communities in the pickle as you still have your per capita stuff and your property taxes. He
22 doesn’t think we are going to save any money. He thinks it’s going to cost us more. Priscilla said
23 she said that from day one. That is what the people were saying at the PSATs conference two
24 years ago, now you have to pay for two people. Ed said the business manager on the committee is
25 saying that his view is that Keystone is the better choice. This will be for the entire county. There
26 are 38 municipalities and seven or eight school districts and they may go to something else. His
27 sense is a lot of the communities here don’t like Berkheimer, but they are a much larger company
28 than Keystone. Lanita said why don’t they like them? Ed said arrogance. He looked at the
29 responses, and this was an RFP, and you usually expect to have a positive response back in terms
30 of here is our perception of your requirements and here’s how we plan to do it. Berkheimer said
31 time and time again, you don’t need that. He never encountered any one like that. A very arrogant
32 company. Priscilla said you have to compare apples to apples. Ed said the RFP had some criteria
33 in there that Berkheimer didn’t like.

34
35 **7. Fire Services** - Update – Jack said there have been ongoing meetings. The Fire Chiefs from the
36 Township and the Borough have been meeting on a regular basis and they have been discussing a
37 possible merger/consolidation of the five (5) companies. He and Charlie were invited a couple
38 meetings back and they volunteered to work with the administrative end of the fire companies.
39 There are social halls and some administrative issues that have to be discussed in this process.
40 Tomorrow night is the first meeting of the fire company Presidents and Treasurers and they are
41 going to talk about what the process is going to be to move forward. The Chiefs have been
42 meeting and working together on the operational side of this and they have made some real
43 progress toward this merger/consolidation which he and Charlie will be writing about in an article
44 they want to put in the Township newsletter. They will be describing some of the things they are
45 working on. The first one is the policy that both Councils instituted to release Public Works
46 employees who are trained fire fighters and also when new hires are done with Public Works, they
47 are looking for people who are trained fire fighters. They hired a new Public Works employee a
48 couple of months ago and he’s the Assistant Fire Chief at Southeastern. They have several people
49 in Public Works, two in Hellertown and some at the LSA. They needed firefighters during the 6:00
50 AM to the 6:00 PM period weekdays. Today people don’t work locally and the firemen who are
51 available at night time and on weekends travel to their jobs and they are not here, so there was a
52 critical need for firefighters to respond to these daytime calls. With this new policy, we now have
53 six or seven people who are available for those calls during the day. They are also working on a
54 structured dispatch system so that when the calls come from the County 911 center, they are able to
55 dispatch the right amount of firefighters and equipment that are needed for that type of incident that

1 the call came in on. That's worked out terrific. One of the Chiefs mentioned to him that on a recent
2 call, they had to send back people who were responding because due to the type of call it was they
3 had a sufficient number of personnel to handle it. That's worked out very well. The other thing
4 they've been working on is cross training on each other's equipment. It used to be that if a call
5 came in, a firefighter had to travel to his own fire station to respond. With this new system, they go
6 to the nearest fire station and hop on an apparatus and respond to the fire. In order to do that, they
7 need to know how to operate and drive the trucks. They have been training on that the past couple
8 of months and that has worked out very well. They've been doing a variety of things, acting really
9 like one unit and that's worked out very well. There are a lot of other administrative issues and
10 charters and agreements, by-laws and operating procedures and he and Charlie hope they can start
11 putting some of these things together so they can move this process along. John said he sees
12 nothing but good things coming out of this. Going into it as a joint venture with five companies
13 and working as one. It's working. It's had its bumps in the road, but one of the more important
14 things is since a representative from each of the Councils has been there we are able to give them a
15 nudge to keep this in the right direction. He met with one of the Chiefs tonight and they are excited
16 they got minutes and they go over the minutes and everything is now uniform and it's working in a
17 positive direction. There's going to be some bumps in the road and they are coming soon. The
18 guys are working together tremendously here. He's been on the truck with different guys and it's
19 been great. There are new people coming out and going out to the Leithsville area, and it's going to
20 work. You are bringing five guys together and five egos and fire companies and EMS are the most
21 egotistical organizations, so you are putting together these five gentlemen with five different ideas
22 and saying put that truck on the road. They are doing it. We just need to sit back and enjoy it and
23 watch. The hard part is going to be the other (administrative) side of it. One of the big ones is
24 going to be the Dewey Fire Company. There's a multimillion dollar EMS system there which he's
25 going to be quite protective over. The fire companies don't want anything to do with what he is
26 doing and that's working out quite good. Ed said it's a great idea. In light of the fact, that
27 volunteerism is diminishing; being able to hire public works employees who have this skill is
28 fantastic. John said there are other communities who are doing this. Some communities, you have
29 to be a firefighter for them to even look at you. Ed said his question is, there's a lot of local
30 certification, but isn't there also state certification? Jack said yes. Ed said does the Township and
31 the Borough pay for the employees to take these courses? Jack said this training is on their own
32 time after hours. Any cost comes out of their Fireman's Relief Fund. John said most of the things
33 that goes into the fire schools free and it's a time factor if we hire people who already have the
34 training. Priscilla said the Township gives each fire department \$50,000.00 for their operations.
35 Charlie said the Borough has a fire tax and that is devoted to equipment. John said fire tax is for
36 equipment, training, to go to a class. The Township doesn't have that at this point. Charlie said
37 it's over 300 hours of training they have to go through. John said there's a lot to be invested in
38 someone who volunteers. They are doing a terrific job. He wishes he was still a volunteer, but
39 Dewey Ambulance is all career staff. The ALS program has taken off like a rocket ship. They are
40 doing better now than he thought they would at this point. As of last night, they brought in the
41 fourth truck. They started this venture with two and they went to three. As of last night, they
42 brought in a fourth truck. The trucks have been extremely busy and they've been doing a lot of
43 standby work. They are the Eagles official ambulance for their training camp. They got licensed
44 for NASCAR. They are going to the Livestrong bike race down in Montgomery County. It's all
45 income to offset the cost of the ALS providers. They go to all the Lehigh University events. Just
46 before they started with the ALS program, they had about 150 to 160 calls a month. Now they are
47 up to 240 calls. They are not only providing everything for the community, but also helping the
48 community's surroundings. It's exciting. The new truck is red, black and white and there is a SV
49 on it with an EKG strip through it. The ALS represents Saucon Valley. It's not something from
50 outside, but from inside the community. The Fire Chiefs have been talking to him and it's
51 something new every day. Things are going very well.

- 52 **8. Library Services** – Update – Jack said the Township has a library committee and the Township
53 Council asked that committee to explore and gather information on alternatives to our current
54 arrangement with the Bethlehem Area Public Library (BAPL). They had a meeting with the Board
55 of Trustees of the Hellertown Area Library (HAL) back in June. They had previously met with

1 them and asked them to come back with some proposals and they did give us a proposal which was
2 very interesting. The Library Committee will be meeting again at the end of this month and will be
3 making their report to the Township Council probably in September. They will be making
4 recommendations about the proposal that they've been given by the HAL. It was reported in the
5 paper that they were leaving BAPL, which got a lot of people upset. The BAPL Trustees met and
6 they were concerned that the Township was pulling out. They had to advise them that's not the
7 case. No decision has been made by the Township and all they have been doing was gathering
8 information about different alternatives and costs which they want to bring back to the Council. He
9 explained to several residents that no decision has been made to pull out of the BAPL. Lanita
10 asked who reported that? Jack said the Morning Call. Lanita said how did they get that
11 information? Jack said they were at the Hellertown Borough Council meeting. They interviewed
12 him for the report and he set hem straight that there was no decision whatsoever to leave the BAPL
13 and it's a year-to-year decision that Council has until November 15 to make. Ed said when do you
14 have to review the agreement? Jack said every year by November 15th. Ed said as long as he has
15 an ACCESS PA card, he can use that card even if he goes to Hellertown. That did not appear in the
16 article. The article sort of referred that if you cut your ties with BAPL, that's it, but that's not true.
17 John said that's one of the things we let to know the public know. The discussion at Council was
18 our librarian came in and gave a report and someone ran with the ball as Council wanted to know
19 where we stood with the discussions. Council wanted to understand about the ACCESS cards and
20 that's what she was there for. Priscilla said there's other services at the BAPL like internet service
21 that the Hellertown Library doesn't have. The only way you can go on their site is to have a library
22 card. That's a great service and she would miss that. Lanita said her speculation is the south side
23 location would be in jeopardy if their money went away. Jack said one of the issues the Library
24 Committee has looked at is that very few people in our Township use the South Side Branch
25 Library. If you are going to the BAPL, why would you stop on the south side when you can drive
26 across the river to the main library? If you look at the BAPL and the Hellertown Library, both are
27 wonderful places, but they don't compare at this point. The HAL doesn't have as many computers
28 or data bases. Even so, there's a large segment of our Township population who goes there – 50%
29 of the HAL's customer are from Lower Saucon. In the phone calls he received he told them there
30 was no decision to leave the BAPL and most of them were people who said they liked the BAPL
31 and he explained what the committee was doing and that no decision had been made. It would take
32 a long time to go through all these issues and look at what the HAL has or doesn't have, what does
33 the BAPL have. Priscilla said the chances are we're not leaving the BAPL at the end of this year.
34 Jack said he wouldn't recommend it. Charlie said even Robin's proposal was staged over three
35 years and was not something that would happen right away. Stephanie said she still uses the
36 Community College library and doesn't go to the BAPL because of the parking issues. The
37 Northampton Community College has really grown and it has adult and children's books. A lot of
38 the state funding is going away for public libraries and she wondered if it will get taken away from
39 the Northampton Community College? Jack said he doesn't have the answer to that and doesn't
40 know how they are funded. There are some people who belong to college libraries and there is a
41 small fee. He doesn't know how they are funded. The hearing today had to do with state funding.
42 It had risen from 1999 on but then with the state budget problems, it has been decreased every year
43 since 2003. The funding for the ACCESS PA Program has been cut totally, so libraries have to
44 operate that program, but they aren't getting any funding from the state. That's an issue with the
45 BAPL and the Hellertown Library seeing 50% of the customers coming from the Township. They
46 used to get something from the state, now they are getting nothing. Every library is being forced to
47 tighten their belts.

48
49 **Leithsville Act 537 Plan** – Update – Charlie said they started on Monday doing the test borings
50 and they went a little distance, drilled three holes down at Tuminello tract and then moved to the
51 Grist Mill, and they had a little incident. Jack said there was some hydraulic fluid spilled and he
52 asked Brad Youst from Hanover Engineering, who is in charge of the test borings for the LSA, to
53 give him some information on this so he could report on it tonight. Brad advised him that they
54 have a registered geologist, Chris Taylor, who is on site with the driller and Gar visited the site
55 today. The “spill” was more of a fine spray in two areas of grass that were adjacent to the machine

1 when the hose broke. They are conservatively 10'x10' patches. The one has already had the
2 topsoil & grass removed & topsoil replaced, and the repair of other one is scheduled. There was
3 apparently no puddling of liquid on the soil surface...just a mist on the surface of the local
4 vegetation. Removal of the vegetation, along with a precautionary layer of soil, precludes any
5 further worry about transport to the stream. Charlie said it's a very small area and you can see the
6 black soil they replaced. It's not impacting the stream at all. Charlie said the drill holes look like
7 ant holes. When they open it, there's water within four feet of the surface that is equal to the
8 stream. When they bring that up, there is going to be water and it will look like a volcano. It's all
9 dry and when you clean up, it's okay and it didn't damage anything. He wanted people to know.
10 They went down at least 14' and hit rock at certain places, which is good. He didn't think they
11 would hit it. They are bringing up small pieces of stone, which looks like fingernail clippings.
12 They are hitting some rock on the way down, but no problems. They are leaving the holes open for
13 at least 24 hours as they want to see if the water stabilizes. According to the geologist, it stabilizes
14 very quickly as there is an interconnect between the stream and this hole.

15 16 **9. Other Issues**

- 17 ➤ Charlie said there is a request in for a Joint Planning Commission meeting on September
18 16, 2010 at Lower Saucon Township at 7:00 PM. The Planning Commission in
19 Hellertown approved that and would like to get an agenda together.
- 20 ➤ Charlie said Community Day is on Saturday, August 21, 2010. There are cemetery tours
21 on the 19th and the 20th of August and thus far, we have about 77 people registered, which
22 is a very good number. They are going to bring in two bloodmobiles this year. We're
23 going to have to fit them in. The SV Alumni group also wants to put a vehicle on the
24 Easton Road. John said they'd like to get their fire trailer closer. Charlie said there is also
25 a train ride there, but they will get something worked out.

26 27 **F. County Report – Tom Harp – Absent**

28 29 **G. Citizens Commenting on Non-Agenda Items**

- 30 ➤ Stephanie Brown asked when the meeting with the County on the Meadows Road Bridge was
31 going to be held? Jack said it will be on August 30th and he sent her the line up from the County:
32 John Stoffa, County Executive; Steve Desalva, County Engineer; Tom Koehler, County Bridge
33 Superintendent; and a gentleman from Keller Consulting Engineers who is their bridge engineer.
34 From the Township, there will be Ron Horiszny, Council Member; Jack Cahalan; Jim Birdsall,
35 Township Engineer; a representative from the Saucon Creek Watershed who may be there and you.
36 Stephanie said she's been at Council meetings, and there hasn't really been a lot of support there
37 from them. She would like to get some more people involved. She was wondering if the two
38 active residents on Meadows Road could be invited also. Jack said we are providing Mr. Stoffa
39 with the names of the people attending and he's been courteous enough to have the meeting. It will
40 be done at the bridge and if it gets too big, they might ask everyone to come down to Easton, where
41 the parking is not good at all. Priscilla said she agrees with Jack that we should keep the numbers
42 limited to what he just said. Then follow up with support letters from the other communities. Ed
43 said what about a "Save the Bridge" petition? Stephanie said she heard they were useless, but it's a
44 good idea. Priscilla said this is a special meeting and it has to go back to Northampton County, so
45 people who want to show their support would be able to go to the follow-up meetings.
- 46 ➤ Greg said he thinks the light they are putting in at Polk Valley Road is going to make traffic a
47 mess. Stephanie said there is also a bus stop there. Charlie said he's sure PennDOT has all that
48 information marked. Stephanie asked if there was any progress with McDonalds and the stop sign
49 they were going to erect in their parking lot? Charlie said their codes officer was supposed to go
50 down and talk to them. They are going to look at all of that.

51 52 **H. Events Calendar**

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

- 1 ➤ Priscilla said she wants to extend an invitation for an event on Monday night at the Heller
- 2 Homestead. They are celebrating their National Register listing and also Meet the Artist, Fran
- 3 Rosen, which is beautiful. It's at 7:00 PM and remarks will be at 7:30 PM. It will last until 9:00
- 4 PM. They are expecting some legislators and local officials to speak.
- 5 ➤ Priscilla said the barn tour is September 11, 2010 with beautiful barns and features.

6
7 **I. Adjournment:**
8 Motion to adjourn. The time was 8:35 PM.

9
10 **J. Next Meeting: September 8th @ SVSD; October 13th @ Hellertown Borough; November 10th @**
11 **Lower Saucon Township**
12