

Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 14, 2011

A. Call to Order – Glenn Kern- 7:00 p.m.

B. Those Present-, Glenn Kern, Tina Krasnansky, Ed Inghrim, John Bate, Thomas Rieger and Leslie Huhn. Priscella deLeon arrived at 7:01 p.m.

C. Council of Governments

1. Adoption of Council of Governments Minutes

Motion made by Ed Inghrim, seconded by Glenn Kern, to approve the November 9, 2011, meeting minutes as written. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Treasurer's Report

Ms. deLeon- The fund balance as of November 30, 2011, is \$15,357.39. There have been no bills paid. There are \$2.00 bank fees added which Ms. Gorman will be speaking to the bank to have waived. The checking account balance as of November 30, 2011, is \$3,869.00. There were no checks written from the account.

Motion made by Glenn Kern, seconded by Ed Inghrim, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried 5-0.

3. Approval to Pay Bills- None

D. Brief Reports and Discussion Items

1. Casino Impacts Funding/County Gaming Authority- Update

Ms. deLeon- My term will expire December 31, 2011, and I did not wish to be reappointed. New board members will be appointed for 5 years.

At the Gaming Authority's November meeting, a subcommittee was created to look into the criteria for the 2012 Gaming Grant Applications. The Gaming Authority met on December 5, 2011, and voted to dispose of the matrix with the exception of impact. The Board will be judging on direct impact from the casino at time of presentation. The request would not be necessary butfore the

casino, this may not be needed. Contiguous municipalities should be awarded monies first and if there are any monies remaining, it would carry over into the uncommitted funds. Staff can work with municipalities to ensure all supporting documents are in prior to voting. The Board will not allow for multi-year grant applications. An information session will be held early on in the application process.

Ms. deLeon was thanked for her service on the Gaming Authority.

Mr. Rieger- The Peer Recreation Committee would like to do a survey of the community for recreational needs. To successfully do that, they would like to use a program called Survey Monkey could give the committee good data. The free survey are not as indepth as needed so we would like to purchase a year subscription. It would be split between the school district, Hellertown Borough, and Lower Saucon Township. It would be linked on all three websites, the Facebook page, and a link on Patch. The Survey Monkey will calculate the results automatically.

Motion made by Glenn Kern, seconded by John Bate, to recommend to the three entities to fund the Survey Monkey.

Ms. deLeon- We can only make a recommendation, not pass a motion.

Motion carried 5-0.

2. Joint COG Projects (Saucon Rail Trail; Peer Recreation Study Committee)- Update

Ms. Huhn- The trail markers have been installed. Upper Saucon is working to install their markers now.

Mr. Kern- Lower Saucon Township Council has discussed a parking area off of Reading Road. We do not own the property yet but we reviewed plans.

Ms. deLeon- I would like to bring up at our next Council Meeting to suggest to Council that a donation be made to the Miracle League.

Ms. Krasnansky- The Borough made a donation to the Miracle League.

Mr. Rieger- A Saucon Valley Partnership Agreement will be coming to each municipality.

Mr. Kern- It is an informal agreement outlining the direction of the Partnership. It is similar to a mission statement.

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 is nothing to report. The Compost Center is closed for the season.

Ms. Krasnansky- The Compost Center will be open January 14, 21, and 28, 2012, for Christmas Trees and other debris.

5. Fire Services- Update

There was nothing to report

6. Library Task Force- Update

Ms. Huhn- The Library Task Force just met and they are continuing with the process.

7. Regional Police Study- Update

Ms. deLeon- The consultant has not received the necessary paperwork. She was told by Ms. Huhn that the paperwork just received signatures and it will be forthcoming.

Ms. Krasnansky- The consultants will be meeting on December 21, 2011, with the Police Chiefs and Council Members.

8. Other Issues

Ms. deLeon- Mr. Cahalan is checking with Sandra Fellin of the Saucon Valley School District to see if she would be available to come to a meeting in January or February to discuss their call out system.

The call out system is to be added as a line item on future agendas.

Ms. Krasnansky- Links to Ready PA and the County have been added to the Borough website.

Mr. Rieger- We hope to add a form to the website in the future to allow residents to fill out and sent in so their records can be put into the system. It will allow for the resident to choose how they are contacted and at which number.

Ms. Huhn recommended having both Police Chiefs come to speak on the issue and check into the legality of merging other databases like the school districts.

Mr. Rieger- It is a requirement under the Clean Water Act for the Water Authorities to maintain a database.

Mr. Inghrim- The Saucon Valley School Board will be entering into negotiations with the teachers. We will be giving a "State of the District" presentation at the School Board meeting on January 9, 2012.

Charts were distributed to the members and are made a part of these minutes.

The findings were that the way residents are being taxed now, a household making \$150,000.00 is paying almost the same amount in taxes as a household making \$40,000.00. Pennsylvania needs to find another way to tax like a system based on income. We will be releasing this information to the press.

Mr. Inghrim will be making his presentation at a future Lower Saucon Township Council Meeting following his presentation at the school district.

Ms. deLeon- The landfill is looking to do a westward expansion. They will be making a presentation on January 19, 2012, to the Planning Commission and it will be a joint meeting with Council.

Ms. Krasnansky- The pre-emptive devices have all be installed.

Mr. Bate thanked Ms. deLeon for her service on the Gaming Authority. He noted that Hellertown's representative, Stephanie Kovacs, also resigned and the Borough will be announcing a new candidate at the next Council meeting.

The Partnership will have to decide at a later date how to get updates on the Gaming Authority at the Partnership meetings.

F. County Report

1. County Update

Mr. Harp was not present.

Ms. deLeon- I attended the Joint COG presentation held at Hellertown Borough Hall. We had presentation on sustainable energy funds, a DCED update on economic development, upcoming recycling events, an EMA update, and a discussion on using the census maps to help with redistricting.

The next meeting will be March 13, 2012, at Lower Saucon Township.

2. County Bridge #15 (Meadows Road Bridge)

Ms. deLeon- We are getting closer to setting a date to meet with County representatives and Andy deGruchy's company, Limeworks, to discuss fixing the bridge.

G. Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items- None

H. Calendar of Events- None

I. Adjournment

Motion made by Glenn Kern, seconded by Ed Inghrim, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Changing Saucon Valley District Demographics*

- The population of the SVSD is aging. Since the last US Census the number of residents that are 65 and older grew by almost 14%.
- Although the total number of residents in the under 5 years age group decreased by almost 6%, the population of this group in Hellertown grew while in Lower Saucon Township it dropped dramatically.

Age Group	US Census - 2000				US Census - 2010				SV Growth
	HB	LS	Saucon Valley	%	HB	LS	Saucon Valley	%	
Total:	5,606	9,884	15,490		5,898	10,772	16,670		8%
Under 5 years	284	553	837	5.4%	346	443	789	4.7%	-6%
5 to 17 years	846	1,803	2,649	17.1%	878	1,927	2,805	16.8%	6%
18 to 64 years	3,183	6,083	9,266	59.8%	3,497	6,470	9,967	59.8%	8%
65 and Over	1,293	1,445	2,738	17.7%	1,177	1,932	3,109	18.7%	14%

* Source: 2000 & 2010 US Census

Changing Saucon Valley District Demographics*

- Since the last US Census the number of owner occupied homes in the SVSD has increased about 7%, pushing up the property tax assessment base.
- In Hellertown Borough, for the 65 years and older age group, owner occupied homes has dropped about 23% while renter occupied homes soared 72%

TENURE BY AGE OF HOUSEHOLDER	Census 2000				Census 2010							
	HB	% Total	LS	% Total	SV	% Total	HB	% Change	LS	% Change	SV	% Change
Total:	2,448		3,735		6,183		2,604		4,120		6,724	
Owner-occupied	1,816	74%	3,310	89%	5,127	83%	1,778	-2%	3,712	12%	5,491	7%
15 to 64 years	1,118	46%	2,500	67%	3,618	59%	1,240	11%	2,635	5%	3,875	7%
65 years and over	698	29%	810	22%	1,509	24%	538	-23%	1,077	33%	1,616	7%
Renter-occupied	632	26%	425	11%	1,057	17%	826	31%	408	-4%	1,235	17%
15 to 64 years	447	18%	372	10%	819	13%	508	14%	334	-10%	842	3%
65 years and over	185	8%	53	1%	238	4%	318	72%	74	40%	393	65%

* Source: 2000 & 2010 US Census

Saucon Valley District Demographics*

Income Range	2010 - Hellertown Borough				2010 - Lower Saucon Township			
	Households	Total Income	Avg. Income	%	Households	Total Income	Avg. Income	%
< \$40K	971	\$23,662,500	\$24,369	39%	772	\$17,077,500	\$22,121	19%
\$40K - \$50K	339	\$15,187,500	\$44,801	14%	251	\$11,192,500	\$44,592	6%
\$50K - \$75K	598	\$41,377,500	\$69,193	24%	774	\$48,992,500	\$63,298	19%
\$75K - \$100K	241	\$21,087,500	\$87,500	10%	626	\$54,775,000	\$87,500	16%
\$100K - \$150K	241	\$29,662,500	\$123,081	10%	790	\$97,550,000	\$123,481	20%
> \$150K	112	\$21,700,000	\$193,750	4%	761	\$159,075,000	\$209,034	19%
	2,502	\$152,677,500		100%	3,974	\$388,662,500		100%

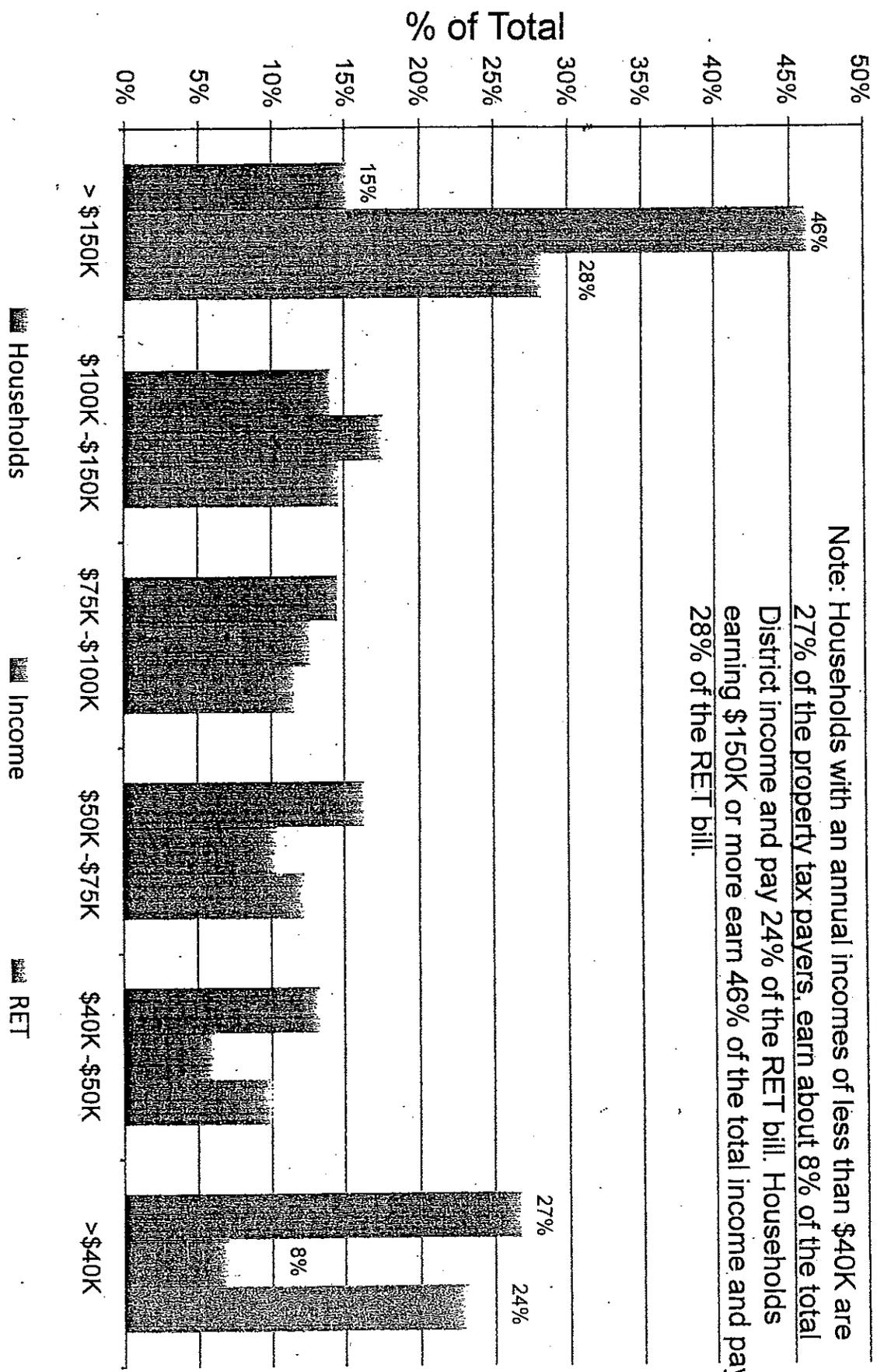
Income Range	2010 - Saucon Valley SD			
	Households	Total Income	Avg. Income	%
< \$40K	1,743	\$40,740,000	\$23,373	27%
\$40K - \$50K	590	\$26,380,000	\$44,712	9%
\$50K - \$75K	1,372	\$90,370,000	\$65,867	21%
\$75K - \$100K	867	\$75,862,500	\$87,500	13%
\$100K - \$150K	1,031	\$127,212,500	\$123,387	16%
> \$150K	873	\$180,775,000	\$207,073	13%
	6,476	\$541,340,000		100%

* Source: 2000 & 2010 US Census, PA Department of Revenue & Berkheimer

Saucon Valley District Demographics

(Owner-Occupied Household Personal Income vs. Total SVSD RET)

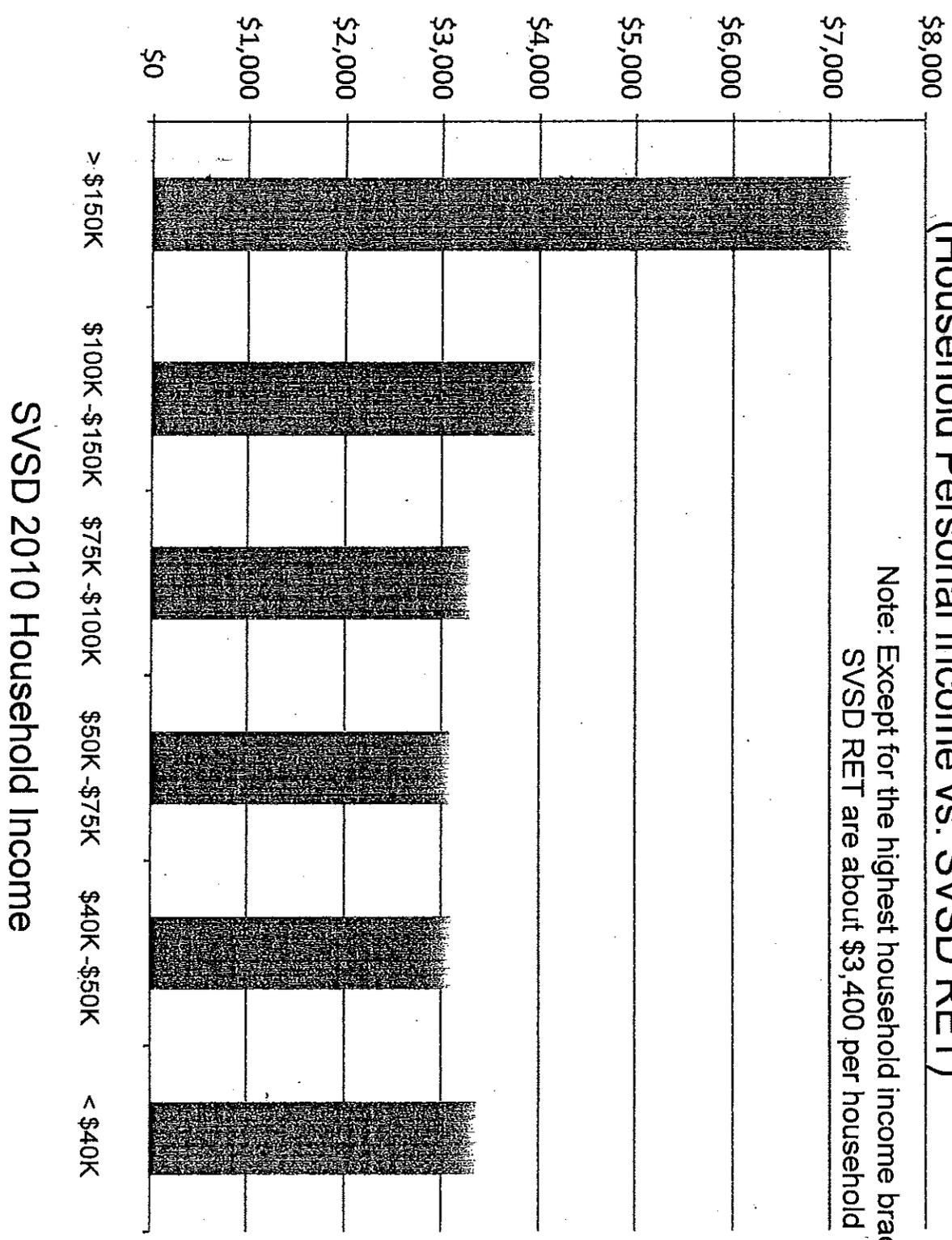
Note: Households with an annual incomes of less than \$40K are 27% of the property tax payers, earn about 8% of the total District income and pay 24% of the RET bill. Households earning \$150K or more earn 46% of the total income and pay 28% of the RET bill.



Saucon Valley District Demographics

(Household Personal Income vs. SVSD RET)

Note: Except for the highest household income bracket SVSD RET are about \$3,400 per household



SVSD 2010 Household Income