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## Saucon Valley Partnership Meeting

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3 Date: November 12, 2008

4 Time: 7:00 PM

5 Location: Lower Saucon Township  
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7 **A. Call to Order:** The Saucon Valley Partnership meeting was called to order on November 13, 2008 at 7:00  
8 PM at Lower Saucon Township.

9  
10 **B. Roll Call:** Ed Ingrhim, Chair; Mayor Fluck, Glenn Kern, Tom Maxfield, Priscilla deLeon, Susan Baxter,  
11 Jack Cahalan, Charlie Luthar, and Tom Harp from the County.

12  
13 **C. Council of Governments:**  
14

- 15 1. Minutes of the October 8, 2008 meeting were presented and approved on a motion by Susan seconded  
16 by Priscilla
- 17 2. Checking Account: - Jack said there are copies for the checking account for the month of October. In  
18 the checking account, the balance as of October 31, 2008 is \$26,746.11. During the month of October,  
19 a payment was made to Environment Planning and Design in the amount of \$2,576.87.
- 20 3. Treasurer's Report - Jack said the balance as of October 31, 2008 is \$7,961.35. There were no  
21 payments or receipts out of that fund during the month of October.  
22

**Jane Balum arrived at 7:04 PM**

**Margie Segaline arrived at 7:05 PM**

**Keri Maxfield arrived at 7:18 PM**

23  
24 Motion for approval to accept the Treasurers report was made by Glenn, second by Mayor Fluck. All  
25 in favor.  
26

- 27 4. Approval to pay bills - Jack said there are some bills to pay. There are two bills from EPD. The  
28 first one is dated October 14, 2008 which covers their services from September 1 to September 30,  
29 2008 in the amount of \$2,510.49. He has reviewed and it meets with the plan approval. He  
30 recommends it be approved for payment. The second bill is dated November 7, 2008 covering EPD  
31 services for the period October 1 to October 30, 2008 for various meetings they attended in the month  
32 of October in the amount of \$4,607.84. It is in order and he recommends approval. Motion for  
33 approval to pay EPD in the amount of \$2,510.49 and \$4,607.84 was made by Jane, seconded by Susan.  
34 All in favor.  
35

36 Jack said he has one bill for Diane Palik for transcription service for the October 8, 2008 meeting in the  
37 amount of \$60.00. He recommends approval. Motion by Glenn and second by Susan for approval to  
38 pay Diane Palik, Transcriptionist. All in favor.  
39

- 40 5. Approval of 2009 Meeting Schedule - Jack said looking forward to 2009, there's a schedule of  
41 meetings that need to be approved. Motion by Glenn and second by Jane for approval of the meeting  
42 schedules for 2009. All in favor.  
43  
44  
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46

1 **D. Citizens Commenting on Agenda Items:**

2  
3 Margie Segaline, said regarding the comp plan and as far as brochures for the historical events,  
4 restaurant brochure, etc., she wanted to know if the SVP would allot money for brochure holders at  
5 various locations so visitors in the area could get this information. She doesn't know at this time how  
6 many she would need. Jack said maybe the Lehigh Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau could help  
7 out. The Mayor said that they distributed the brochures for the Farmers Market through them. Charlie  
8 and Jack said they would look into this and get more information on it and they will bring it back.  
9 Charlie said the Route 78 Welcome Center coming in from New Jersey does this also and has  
10 brochures. Priscilla said the Partnership is the Council of Governments and we want to support  
11 historic commitments, but when we approve our budget, we don't have money in our budgets for that,  
12 but then we have the sports teams coming in and where do you stop. Each group should go to the  
13 Lehigh Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau. Glenn said we are more of an advisory body and we  
14 can advise our Council. Priscilla said anything we do has to be taken back to our boards. Ed said  
15 he'd be surprised if he went over to that hotel and they didn't have a rack with brochures already.  
16 Priscilla said we don't have the money to do it. Charlie said they can check with the Chamber and get  
17 back to you. There was a question as to how this relates to the comp plan? Margie said on the on page  
18 ii, first paragraph in the comp plan, it should be covered under civic amenities. What are civic  
19 amenities? Jack said he's not sure we have a definition of civic amenities in here. It's not in the  
20 Action Plan portion. He will do some research on it.  
21

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

23  
24 None  
25

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

27  
28 **1. Comp Plan Update & Schedule – Discussion**

29  
30 Jack said EPD is not here tonight. You should have a copy of the Comp. Plan. There's a good  
31 picture on the front cover of the Mayor and Glenn Kern. As of November 5, 2008, both Councils  
32 have accepted the draft Comp Plan from the Planning Commissions. The Planning Commissions  
33 had reviewed it over the space of two to three meetings and had some recommendations for EPD to  
34 include in the draft plan and with those recommendations they moved to have it sent to the  
35 Councils for distribution to the adjacent municipalities. At our meeting, there was one item that  
36 was brought up and it was a map and some language in the plan that you have. The map and  
37 section is labeled "developable land" on page 314, and there's some background and a short  
38 explanation on page 315.  
39

40 Tom Maxfield said what we came up with was we recommended that it be called "undeveloped  
41 land". Developable land seemed like we wanted people to come in here and go shopping and  
42 figure out how to develop this land. Since it was a background kind of map of basically open space  
43 and undeveloped space, we felt that undeveloped said more about the property itself than  
44 developable land would. His concern at the moment was that there is a small section in Hellertown  
45 and he wanted to make sure Borough Council was okay with that too. Is that a chunk of land you  
46 do want developed or are looking to develop it. With our open space initiative in the Township,  
47 we're kind of trying not to develop land.  
48

49 Jack said the map verbiage says that this includes current agricultural, vacant, golf course and gun  
50 club land uses. Jack said they heard through the grapevine that the golf course had some inquiries  
51 to buy and to sell. Priscilla said would it be okay to go back and change the color and have the  
52 undeveloped land include agricultural. It is misleading. Tom said a lot of the structures like  
53 woodland, there's already been a development planned and come in for that. Calling it  
54 undeveloped land at this point, it could go from one building to many buildings in a short time.

1 Mr. Maxfield said agricultural land is a use and currently being used and may continue to be used.  
2 The thought behind the word change was to get rid of the perception of encouragement. Ed said  
3 he likes calling it undeveloped. You could call it under developed. He likes the concept of not  
4 encouraging development. Jack said Carolyn Yagle would like the blessing of this Steering  
5 Committee tonight for this change. That way she can go back and make the change in the final  
6 draft of the comp plan and once that is done, Charlie, Carolyn and Jack will start the clock on the  
7 45 day review period and send the draft out to the adjacent municipalities and the school districts  
8 for review and comments.  
9

10 Motion by Glenn and seconded by Priscilla to approve the change. All in favor.  
11

12 Jack said copies will be sent to the School District and they can take it to the Board. They will  
13 send them a disk copies. Ed said that will be fine.  
14

15 **G. Brief Reports and Discussion Items:**

16  
17 **1. Casino Impacts Funding – Update:**

18  
19 Charlie said there was a meeting on Monday night with the County Gambling Impacts Committee.  
20 John Stoffa is still off with his hip replacement. Bob Pfenning, the Chairman of the committee  
21 discussed an appearance before the financial sub committee of the County Council that they made  
22 November 15 and he followed up with Council on 11/16 to explain what the municipalities were  
23 concerned about for casino revenue sharing and to report on the Erie County decision with Summit  
24 Township. He got no reaction at all from Council, no feedback, no nothing. He was going to ask a  
25 question about the participation of committee members, something he called Section 1512 of the  
26 gaming law which has to do if you hold stock in any of the casinos; you cannot partake in this  
27 committee. Jack said this took up a whole meeting one night about Bob's apprehension about a  
28 potential conflict. He offered to step down as he has a couple shares. Charlie said he offered to  
29 step down on Monday also, and said there should be a policy at Northampton which would apply to  
30 Tom Harp and everybody else if you are in a decision making capacity. He did ask for Ross  
31 Marcus, the Human Services Director, to contact his Bucks County counterparts to determine if  
32 there are any increases in social agency intakes and any related matters. He asked John McGeehan,  
33 the prison guy, to check with the prison in Bucks County because that's the casino in that area and  
34 see if there was any change there, and he asked Chief Balum to check with the Bensalem EMS and  
35 fire personnel to check and see if they noticed any kind of impact with the casino that's running  
36 there. It's going to be on the December 8 gaming committee agenda. He then went into discussion  
37 about 8K filings that the Sands did. It's a financial report the casinos do to cover their bases. They  
38 filed on November 6, 2008 in which they went into great detail in one of the notes. He said note  
39 no. 1 talked about the Bethlehem casinos and the details, its operating plans and they talked about  
40 the loan covenants. He repeated that the majority owner of all of the Sands stock would try to  
41 bolster the financing. They filed another 8K report the following day. They appointed a new Chief  
42 Financial Officer at a salary of \$900,000 and that was in the 8K report. Jack said since that time,  
43 there's been some additional financing. Charlie said McGeehan asked if they had heard anything  
44 about the Bethlehem facility being sold to the Seneca Indian nation because the Mohican Sun has a  
45 separate agreement with the State that it is a separate corporation and it has its revenue taxed. He  
46 was wondering if the money would still be available. Chief Balum raised a question about what's  
47 the future of their Committee. Bob Pfenning again indicated he was willing to step down. What  
48 are they going to do after the December meeting. Is there any purpose for them again since they  
49 don't have any say in the discussion? They agreed they would meet in December and talk about it  
50 in their meeting and they would have to advertise their 2009 meeting schedule at that time. The  
51 discussion actually went into a suggestion by a number of them that the municipalities appear at  
52 County Council next Thursday, November 20, 2008 to state our case.  
53

1 Jack said there have been a couple of suggestions and one came from the Borough Council who  
2 suggested they contact the County Councilwoman Ann McHale and talk to her. Priscilla requested  
3 we set up a meeting with Senator Boscola. Today Charlie and Jack received a call from  
4 Freemansburg asking them to get together with them on Friday with Mayor Yob and their Solicitor  
5 Larry Fox. They are saying the group ought to speak up because obviously the question is what is  
6 going to happen with this money, how is it going to be divided, shouldn't we be knocking on  
7 people's doors. Mayor Yob caused the follow up email that Jack's talking about. Jack said  
8 everyone wants to have a meeting or presentation. The question is who with, the legislators,  
9 County Council? Mr. Stoffa is out of commission right now for another two or three weeks.  
10 Charlie and Jack will go to this meeting with Freemansburg; and Hanover Township will be there.  
11 We wanted to talk to this group and see what you felt was the best direction.  
12

13 Priscilla said until the State changes the law, everybody is going to be talking about this and  
14 everybody is going to come up with their own ideas Boscola needs to know that the law is not  
15 working and it is being interpreted many different ways. Glenn said how do you interpret it?  
16 Priscilla said that the adjacent municipalities should be prioritized. Glenn asked what does that  
17 mean? Priscilla said to her, it means if there are 20 people and the first five are adjacent  
18 municipalities, then we take a hard look at those and the money is prioritized to them. Glenn said  
19 that was the whole exercise they did with trying to get the five adjacent municipalities together. Ed  
20 said it doesn't really have any specificity and that's what we were trying to do. Priscilla said the  
21 law has to be changed, it's not right. Glenn said who suggested we go before County Council?  
22 Charlie said the members of the Gambling Impacts Committee that were there. They don't know  
23 what's going to happen either. The Erie County decision, the judges decision, they strictly  
24 interpret who could partake. It had to be casino impact related, which means no money would get  
25 to anybody.  
26

27 Priscilla said did anyone try to find out what the casino presented at their City Council meetings,  
28 their traffic studies, what was submitted and approved by the City? Lisa Boscola is going to say,  
29 what are your impacts? Charlie said Stoffa had written to the Mayor of Bethlehem and asked for  
30 the police report and things like that and there was no response. Priscilla said it's public  
31 information. Someone said in Lehigh County they already have their \$850,000 spent, they had the  
32 gambling money in their budget. Priscilla said they have to first pay back the lottery fund before  
33 anyone gets any money. Tom said how does splitting the money with Lehigh County jive with the  
34 Erie decision? Lehigh County will not be suffering any impacts. Priscilla said that was the deal  
35 that Boscola and Browne made and that deal messed us up. Tom said the deal doesn't jive with the  
36 case law afterwards. Jack said in the Erie County case, the judge looked at the gaming legislation  
37 and interpreted it and said this is how the money should be distributed. It's significant that this is  
38 the first judicial interpretation of the question: how does the money get divvied up. If it were to go  
39 to court here, they'd have to look at the legislation and the revenue sharing language that sent  
40 money to Allentown and Lehigh County and that would have to be factored into the distribution as  
41 that's the law. Priscilla said they were thinking Lehigh County and Allentown and not thinking  
42 about all the adjacent municipalities. Jack said you could go and speak to the legislators and speak  
43 to the County Council, but right now, the County Council is still wrestling with the decision on  
44 who is going to distribute the money. They are not ready to make that decision and it may take  
45 until next July. Charlie said they said it might not be discussed until mid-December. One of the  
46 people there on the Committee, Peg Ferraro, said at their budget meeting, she was going to mention  
47 something about it, but it was a budget meeting. The Committee asked Jack and Charlie if they  
48 were willing to go to the Council meeting? Glenn said they probably don't even know the history  
49 of us trying to get the five adjacent municipalities in agreement. Just tell them exactly what  
50 happened. We thought it was a fair and equitable thing for the five adjacent municipalities to share  
51 equally. We came up with a formula, explain the formula and explain that Bethlehem Township  
52 opted not to join and the four of us did. Then at least you'll be getting feedback from Council  
53 whether they approve of that formula or general idea or if they oppose it. Then we'll go from  
54 there. Jack said we would also want to direct Charlie and himself to include Freemansburg and

1 Hanover Township in this presentation. What he's hearing from Freemansburg is they are going to  
2 have their own representatives. Mayor Yob wants to talk; Larry Fox wants to talk, so we have to  
3 decide if Mayor Fluck wants to talk, does Council President Kern want to talk. Ed said if you put  
4 this overview together for the Friday meeting, you might be able to get closure of yes that states  
5 our position. Priscilla said the County Council members will remember a bunch of faces rather  
6 than just one face. She said Ann McHale is Hellertown's representative, who is ours? Tom Harp  
7 said they think Ann McHale has both. Priscilla asked Tom to find out and get back to them. He  
8 thinks it could be McClure with McHale. He said he would get back to them. Glenn said it might  
9 not be a bad idea to invite Bethlehem Township one more time. Jack said that was their intent.  
10 Glenn said since they changed their President, they might have a different opinion. Ed said, okay,  
11 they have a plan. Jack said they will talk to the other bodies on Friday.

## 12 13 **2. Joint COG Projects**

14 Jack said an update on the Rails to Trail Project. Since last month, there's been progress on the  
15 clearing of the tracks of the overgrown trees and it has been completed all the way up the  
16 Hellertown. That went fairly quickly. The contractor just drove an excavator up the middle of the  
17 tracks and pulled out the trees. He respected all the trees that were marked and stayed away from  
18 encroaching on people's property. The other part of the contract to remove the rails and the ties has  
19 moved as of now, up close to DeSales University. That's a slower process as they have to cut the  
20 ties off with a torch and then move them down to a spot so they can get them on a flat bed truck  
21 and then they have to get a digger to pull the ties up and stack them up. The places they have seen,  
22 it's pretty wide open. They should be getting close to our neck of the woods in December, towards  
23 Christmas time. They will keep working until the project is completed. While that's going on, we  
24 are looking at the draft lease agreement that was sent to us by SEPTA. It's being looked at by our  
25 Solicitor and we have had two drafts. There are not a lot of major issues with it. That is moving  
26 along to a final draft, and probably by the end of December we can give it to each of the Council's  
27 for their review and discussion. There are a couple of engineering types of issues that he and  
28 Charlie have been focusing on. Charlie said his issue was a culvert that feeds the Grist Mill from  
29 the raceway which comes down parallel to the Saucon Creek and goes through this culvert and  
30 appears to be like 150 feet long and it's blocked. You also have one in the township that's blocked.  
31 Jack said there's one south of Old Mill Road that was looked at. It's open on the Saucon Creek  
32 side, but appears to be blocked on the other side. It's a concrete culvert. Hanover Engineering  
33 took some pictures of the culvert and it's been used by some kids as there's a lot of liquor bottles  
34 there. It's somewhere between the Old Mill Crossing and Bingen station or maybe further down.  
35 Charlie said in the case of the Borough, it's the water supply to the Grist Mill and the culvert for  
36 the Borough is a stone structure and it's not done as well as the one in the photos you have. There's  
37 no masonry and it feeds the Grist Mill and the water level in the ponds has been dropping and we  
38 need to get in there with an excavator and find out what's going on there and try to replace it with  
39 something more substantial and that has to be worked out with SEPTA. We need to get that  
40 cleared up. Glenn said what's the issue in the township? Jack said we want to know if this culvert  
41 is blocked up and if that's a problem. SEPTA is claiming there's some previous type of agreement  
42 that we haven't even started looking for yet that made these infrastructure features the  
43 responsibility of the municipalities. It looks like there is some signal equipment that is not going  
44 to be removed and we want to make sure SEPTA works with us to make sure it's removed. There  
45 are some telephone signal poles we want taken care of. We'll update you as we go along.

## 46 47 48 **3. Polk Valley Road/Walnut Street Intersection Enhancements – Update**

49 Jack said there is nothing new on the Polk Valley Road. It's still proceeding with PennDOT with  
50 their review. They sent us a list of several changes. They were all minor corrections and they are  
51 being taken care of.  
52  
53

1 Charlie said on Walnut Street, the problem was the handicapped ramps. They sent us a punch list  
2 of about 15 times. Most were minor, but all were connected with the handicap ramps. The  
3 intersection was designed with ramps as with the plan in 2003, and they are not valid anymore, so  
4 we have to go back and come up with a different design. We submitted a letter last week and asked  
5 them for a variance on the design. Hopefully, we'll hear something back. For the most part, it's  
6 done except for the handicap and we asked for a traffic study for the left turn signal.  
7

8 **4. Joint Enterprise Zone with City of Bethlehem– Update**  
9

10 Charlie said nothing new. Apparently, they named a coordinator, but we don't know that yet.  
11

12 **5. Hellertown – Lower Saucon Compost Center – Update**  
13

14 Charlie said it's doing real well. We equaled what we had last year in terms of participation and it  
15 continues to be very good. The leaf season right now is going to be excellent. Jack said the Yard  
16 Waste Recycling Committee discussed the possibility of keeping it open later this year but only on  
17 Friday's when Public Works people are available so we can cut back the overtime. The leaves  
18 seem to be cooperating better this year than last year. We also put together a budget for operation  
19 of the compost center for 2009.  
20

21 **6. Tax Reassessment – Update**  
22

23 Ed said no update.  
24

25 **7. Fire Services – Update**  
26

27 Jack said no update.  
28

29 **8. Leithsville Act 537 Plan – Update**  
30

31 Jack said no update.  
32

33 **9. Other Issues (Speed Limits On Township Roads Leading Into Borough; Use Of SVSD**  
34 **Campus For Overflow Parking At Polk Valley Park; Junior Council Members)**  
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36 **Speed Limits:**

37 Jack said there are a couple of issues with speed limits on Apple Street and some other Township  
38 roads that lead into the Borough. Charlie said the Chief reported the speed of cars coming in from  
39 the Township into Borough streets that have 25 MPH signs. We tried to see if there was a way we  
40 could cooperate and work with Lower Saucon to do something about that. The Magistrate requires  
41 a certain distance from the time you have your first marking until you can enforce it and like on  
42 Water Street, it doesn't allow enough time until you hit Main Street. Jack said they have to see if  
43 they can reduce the speed limits to a point where it can match Hellertown at the border. We agreed  
44 to put up a Reduce Speed Ahead sign, but that even needs a certain number of feet. Charlie said  
45 we do have Reduced Speed Ahead at all locations, but it's not adequate as it's not enough distance.  
46 Jack said the Township Engineer is looking into whatever study has to be done to justify this. They  
47 are PennDOT roads and we will come to Council with a recommendation. Charlie said it's more of  
48 an enforcement issue with this particular Magistrate. He talked to a guy from PennDOT Safety and  
49 he said everything is marked fine. He even said on Water Street, the Friedensville side of the  
50 bridge, there's too many signs. You don't need all those signs. We aren't about to take any down.  
51 PennDOT is okay, its how do we attack the Magistrate's question.  
52  
53  
54

1 **Use of the SVSD Campus for Overflow Parking at Polk Valley Park:**

2 Jack said this is something that came from our Council meeting. We had a discussion at our last  
3 meeting about some parking issues. Polk Valley Park has just opened this year and it's getting  
4 some real good use by the area youth sports teams. We've been hearing from them about some  
5 short-term parking problems and for our long-term plan for overflow parking, what we would like  
6 to do is finish working on the Connector Trail from the school campus to the park which will allow  
7 people to walk, bike, between the two areas. We would like to approach the school and formally  
8 ask them to for use of the school's parking lots for any overflow parking that would be coming to  
9 Polk Valley Park for an event. Ed said from his perspective, it's public parking, so anyone can  
10 park there. He'll mention it to the Board and get a legal opinion on it. Jack said when the  
11 Connector Trail plan is completed, which was the option chosen by Council instead of the sidewalk  
12 for safety reasons; that will substantially reduce the cost that the school would have had to incur for  
13 the sidewalks. This is just, if needed, for large events. People would park up there and walk to the  
14 park. Ed said as part of the comp plan, it was referenced there about creating some kind of a joint  
15 rec committee where there would be members of the township, borough and school district. It  
16 seems to him if that if that kind of arrangement was made there wouldn't be any problem to share  
17 it, it's just a matter of scheduling it.

18 **Jr. Council Members:**

19 Jack said that Priscilla asked him to bring this up again. We checked with Principal Todd Gombos  
20 and he said he sent out notices out to the Guidance Counselors to see if they could drum up any  
21 interest for any Jr. Council members for the Township and the Borough Council.

- 22 • Susan Baxter asked about the 2009 calendar meeting dates, could July 11<sup>th</sup> be taken off this  
23 year for the summer? Glenn said that's a good idea. Motion by Susan and second by Priscilla  
24 to take July 11<sup>th</sup> off the meeting calendar for 2009. All in favor. Jack said we'll skip  
25 Hellertown Borough in rotation.
- 26 • Charlie said there was a recent accident at the school district where there was a student struck.  
27 Wally Zimpfer dropped a copy of a letter from the Superintendent office which recommended  
28 that the municipalities mark the streets and put signage up. He asked Tom Henshaw to talk to  
29 Wally to find out what areas he was talking about. Some of those roads are private roads also.
- 30 • Tom Maxfield said there was some discussion earlier when we get the trail going from the  
31 school district to the park that there was an idea kicked around about an expanding the speed  
32 zone down to the park and looking to reduce the speed limits. He'd like to extend it all the  
33 way down to the front of the park. Jack said we'd have to do a study.
- 34 • Jack said he gave everybody copies of the comments that the Borough and Township made on  
35 the draft comprehensive plan that the City of Bethlehem submitted to them. That's for your  
36 information. You'll see they were done independently and there was agreement on some of the  
37 comments between the Borough and the Township. One of the interesting comments on here  
38 has to do with the Rails to Trails and in their draft Comp Plan the City of Bethlehem is  
39 advocating for the resumption of passenger service between Hellertown and Lansdale. That is  
40 contradictory to what we're doing with the Rail to Trails, so we pointed that out to them. One  
41 of the other things is the City is holding a design workshop. It's on their greenway, which is  
42 their Rail to Trail coming from South Bethlehem to Saucon Park. They do not mention  
43 anything south of that which is where we are. A lot of the comments are let's get together and  
44 discuss the development and impacts from the casino and the LVIP and talk about what's going  
45 on.
- 46 • Susan raised the issue of the LERTA tax break that the school board will have to vote on for  
47 the Majestic land and the area by the old Bethlehem Steel and there are three different zones.  
48 She thinks we are losing out. She's been told we own more land and she doesn't know how  
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54

1 our lawyer could figure that out. If anyone has any opinions, let them know. Glenn said in the  
2 school board discussions, what was the downside from a tax break. Ed said they said Majestic  
3 would be reluctant to develop it and only develop it as the last piece of property and that was  
4 the holdup. What we didn't know at the time, and now we do know, is that we are giving a tax  
5 break to a million dollar company. Glenn said is the land desirable from a Majestic  
6 standpoint? Ed said when you run out of land and it's the only thing left, and what happened,  
7 Bethlehem Steel went around and bought all this land, when they took the land, they didn't  
8 change the school district and the school district gets the money. His inclination is to change  
9 his vote and say no this time. Tom Maxfield said they put a lot of money into the legal work to  
10 acquire that property and they are really nice and honest guys to deal with. They are real  
11 professional and much more giving of information. He doesn't think anyone on there should  
12 get any tax breaks because it's a Brownfield. The plans for that property show enormous  
13 warehouses, skyscraper size.

- 14
- 15 • Susan asked about the traffic on Seidersville Road and Route 378. Jack said they have their  
16 Engineer doing a traffic study on that intersection. It's a poor intersection. It's a PennDOT  
17 intersection, and he doesn't know where it ranks. They have all their efforts right now on 412.  
18
- 19 • Tom Harp Report:
  - 20 ○ He said the County Executive, John Stoffa, is recovering from his hip replacement and  
21 is doing very well. He's at home now recovering. John Conklin was designated to  
22 serve in that capacity until John comes back. We're in the middle of the budget  
23 process. The last meeting he gave everybody a schedule of the budget hearings.  
24 There's a biggie coming up tomorrow and that's the Human Services budget. There  
25 could be some discussion on the gaming money also because of some of the issues that  
26 have been raised about the strain on human services and the county. That's tomorrow  
27 at 4:30 PM. The goal of the Council is to approve the whole budget on December 11,  
28 2008.
  - 29
  - 30 ○ The household hazardous event we had on October 11<sup>th</sup> was very successful. We held  
31 it at Northampton Community College. We had 676 cars go through disposing 23,000  
32 pounds of various toxic components, paints, solvents, etc. We hope to have it next  
33 year and promote it better.
  - 34
  - 35 ○ The recycling event held on October 4<sup>th</sup> resulted in 35,000 pounds of electronic devices  
36 being recycled. Our own internal Northampton County Government offices are  
37 recycling. In two months, we've recycled twelve tons. We have a single stream  
38 program where we put everything recyclable in one container and sort it out later. You  
39 have to change habits, but it is working pretty well.
  - 40
  - 41 ○ The Tree-Vitalize program we talked about, they will be extending the deadline for  
42 applications until January 15<sup>th</sup>, it had been December 1<sup>st</sup>, but this is just coming out  
43 now that they are giving municipalities a little more time.
  - 44
  - 45 ○ The next Joint COG meeting is December 16<sup>th</sup> at the DCED office in the Courthouse.  
46 If you have any issues or topics you want talked about, let him know and he'll try to  
47 get it scheduled.
  - 48
  - 49 ○ Their prescription drug program continues to do very well. For 601 prescriptions  
50 filled, the average cost savings was \$13.12 per prescription, and they encourage people  
51 to use that card if they don't have insurance.
  - 52
  - 53
  - 54

- 1   **H.**    Events Calendar:  
2           [Http://Sauconvalleycalendar.Blogspot.Com](http://Sauconvalleycalendar.Blogspot.Com)  
3  
4   **I.**    Adjournment:   Motion by Glenn and second by Priscilla to adjourn. The time was 8:24 PM.  
5  
6   **J.**    Next Meeting:   Wednesday, December 10, 2008 At 7:00 PM - Saucon Valley School District (January 14,  
7           2009 - Hellertown Borough; February 11, 2009 -Lower Saucon Township)