

Comprehensive Plan Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Hybrid Meeting

In attendance were: James Searing (Chair), Tim Luccaro (Vice-Chair), Marnie Newman, Michael Kennerley, Eric Allen, Nancy Stock Allen, Peter Brussock, Kay Reiss, Elaine Crooks, Jean Weiss (Administrator), Zachary Zubris (Administrator/Zoning Officer), Hanna Howe (Board of Supervisors Liaison), Kevin Morrissey (Board of Supervisors Liaison)

Public:

Absent:

- I. **The meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Ms. Howe and there was a quorum.**
- II. **Election of Officers**
 - a. **Mr. Kennerley was appointed Temporary Chair.**
 - b. **Upon a motion by Mr. Luccaro, seconded by Nancy Stock Allen, Mr. Searing was unanimously elected as Chair of the Committee.**
 - c. **Upon a motion by Mr. Searing, Mr. Luccaro was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.**

III. **General Discussion**

Mr. Searing thanked the Committee members for dedicating their time to serve on the Committee and opened the discussion.

Mr. Zubris provided background on the night's agenda.

Mr. Luccaro discussed the survey that was sent from the Bucks County Planning Commission.

Mr. Zubris stated that the intention was to send out the survey only internally at this point to Township Boards and Committees.

Ms. Reiss expressed concern with answering the survey if someone was unfamiliar with a particular question.

Mr. Kennerley provided context on answering the survey questions.

Mr. Zubris stated the deadline for the survey responses was February 23rd, the Friday before the kickoff meeting.

Mr. Brussock suggested that the deadline be moved up to allow for feedback and discussion.

Ms. Weiss clarified that the County's process for the survey and what would happen going forward.

Mr. Searing stated that he was not in favor of the answers to the survey questions and suggested the County provide clarification.

Ms. Reiss also felt that there should be clarification provided.

Mr. Allen suggested that the survey stay within the Comprehensive Plan Committee, rather than being sent to all Township Boards and Committees.

Mr. Brussock cited the Planning Commission's Sustainability Matrix as a potential resource to generate questions from.

Mr. Luccaro suggested that the Committee come up with points to bring back to the County to make the next meeting more productive.

Upon a Motion by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Luccaro, the Committee moved to push the survey deadline forward to Friday February 2nd while also limiting dispersion of the survey to the Committee, Board of Supervisors, and Township Administration. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

Mr. Brussock cited weaknesses of previous Comprehensive Plans, suggesting that the progress should be tracked on an annual basis.

Ms. Crooks questioned if someone could reach out to the Bucks County Planning Commission for clarification on answering the survey.

Ms. Stock Allen requested clarification on the strategy for reviewing the plan.

Mr. Zubris stated that the previous plan was reviewed by dividing the sections for review.

Mr. Searing stated that his recollection of the previous process was different as each meeting there would be a specific issue for review.

Mr. Brussock stated that the recommendations are for a more holistic approach to the process.

Mr. Morrissey clarified that the Bucks County Planning Commission was hired as the consultant and would tailor the process to the Township.

Mr. Luccaro stated he would take sections of the Comprehensive Plan that pertain to Agriculture to the Farm Committee for feedback and discussion.

Mr. Kennerley stated that it would be beneficial to involve other Committees and Boards in the discussion early in the process.

Mr. Allen questioned when the survey results would be provided and when could the Committee see the public survey.

Mr. Kennerley stated that the public survey would be a few steps down the road.

Mr. Searing stated that he would provide excerpts of the Bucks County 2040 survey results to demonstrate that the County has a good process that he is confident in.

Mr. Brussock stated that it was imperative that data, such as trends and demographics, be provided early on in the process.

V. Public Comment

No public comment.

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Searing adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Zachary J. Zubris". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully Submitted,".

Zachary Zubris
Zoning Officer/Permit Department Administrator
HARB Administrator
Solebury Township