

MINUTES
MIFFLIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2013
LEWISTOWN COUNTRY CLUB – 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Members

Susan Heimbach, Chair
Daniel Dunmire, Vice Chair
Neal Shawver, Secretary
Kent Spicher
Mario Andrie
Thomas Lake
Michele Bair
Brent Miller

Staff

Bill Gomes, Director
Jim Lettiere, Community Development Administrator/Assistant
Director
Doug Marks, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist/Construction
Manager
Jodie Barger, CDBG Fiscal Manager
Stephanie Neff, Office/Grants Manager
Donna Baer, Fiscal Assistant

Guests

Norma Andrie, Robert Bair, Donald Baker, PA Cleanways; Mayor Deb Bargo, Lewistown Borough; Barry Bargo, Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown; Representative Kerry Benninghoff, John Breneman, Senator Jake Corman's Office; Michelle Brummer, Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Will Campbell, The Juniata Valley Bank; Mark Colussy, Huntingdon County Planning & Development; William Conaway, Jr., Parks & Recreation Council; Dain Davis, The EADS Group; Stephen Dunkle, Sue Dunmire; Greg Elliot, The EADS Group; Linus Fenicle, Reager & Adler PC; Allison Fisher, Mifflin-Juniata Human Services Department; Kenneth Fisher, MCS Bank; Ruth Fisher, Mike Fisher, SEDA-COG; Pam Fisher, Terry Foster, MCS Bank; Mark Garlicki, Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Sandy Gomes, Beverly Green, Penelec; Gary Heimbach; Gerald Hummel, Greater Lewistown Corp.; Harold Johnson, Menno Township; Terry Keene, Barton & Loguidice; Ruth Ann Kephart, In Home Services of Central PA LLC.; Dick Koch, Gannett Fleming, Inc.; Kevin Kodish, Mifflin County Commissioner; Murray Laite, Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown; Sandy Lauver, MCS Bank; Diana McClure, Keller Engineers, Inc.; Corbett Monica, The Juniata Valley Bank; Marie Mulvihill, United Way of Mifflin-Juniata Counties; Lucas Parks, The EADS Group; Rob Postal, Mifflin County Industrial Development Corp.; Valerie Postal, Theodore Reed, Wayne Township; Mary Ellen Reed, Otis Riden, Jr., Mifflin County Commissioner; Steven Roselle, CET Engineering Services; Molly Schlegel, Parks and Recreation Council; Jay Schreiber, DCNR; Pam Sechrist, PA Cleanways; E. Dayton Shugarts, Kistler Borough; Janet Shugarts, Kistler Borough; Cory Sisto, Kistler Borough; Ray Sprung, Jay Fulkroad & Sons; Ken Stuck, Gambone, Songer & Associates, Realty; James Tunall, Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce; Judy Tunall, MCS Bank; Judge Rick Williams; Mindy Williams; Tim Williams, Barton & Loguidice; Beth Zong, Mifflin Juniata Special Needs Center; Mark Zong, McVeytown Borough and James Zubler, Downtown Lewistown, Inc.

Dinner

Ken Fisher offered the invocation before the dinner.

Introduction of Guests/Opening Comments/2012 Annual Report

Susan Heimbach, Chair, welcomed everyone to the Annual Dinner Meeting and recognized Mifflin County Commissioners Mark Sunderland, Otis Riden, Jr., and Kevin Kodish. Susan expressed appreciation to the County Commissioners for supporting the Planning Commission's efforts during the past year. Susan also acknowledged some of the guests who attended the meeting. Susan gave the opening comments and explained the reasons for holding the Planning Commission's Annual Meeting. She recognized the Planning Commission members present. Susan then called the meeting to order to review the 2012 Annual Report. She turned the meeting over to Bill Gomes, who began with introducing

the Planning and Development Department staff. Bill reviewed the 2012 Annual Report while Doug Marks managed the slide show presentation. Dan Dunmire made a motion to adopt the 2012 Annual Report. Neil Shawver seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

Awards Presentation

The Community Planning Award is presented by the Mifflin County Planning Commission to nominated individuals, organizations or communities that have demonstrated leadership in community improvements and planning. SEDA-COG Housing Development Corporation was presented with the Community Planning Award in recognition of the Mann Edge Terrace Apartment Project.

The Planning Excellence Award recognizes an individual for contributions to planning related activities in the County. The award was presented jointly by the Mifflin County Commissioners and Planning Commission to Rob Postal for his contributions to planning and improving the quality of life in Mifflin County.

A Staff Award was presented to Doug Marks for his 20 years of dedicated service to the Planning and Development Department. Jodie Barger was also presented with an award for her 10 years of dedicated service to the Planning and Development Department.

Featured Speaker

The featured speaker for the evening was Cindy Adams Dunn, Deputy Secretary for Conservation and Technical Services, DCNR. Cindy started by reminiscing about her experiences as a child visiting with relatives in Juniata County and the fond recollections of frequent summer visits when her relatives would bring her to Mifflin County to visit Kishacoquillas Park and have dinner at a restaurant in town. She commented on the natural beauty of this area that we are fortunate to live in everyday and how there is a growing connection between outdoor activities, better health and stronger economies. She cited recent studies that highlight the larger economic value of areas that have easy access to outdoor recreational opportunities. Cindy discussed the economic impact of people traveling to an area to enjoy outdoor recreation and then spending their money at area stores, restaurants and hotels. She concluded by saying that she feels Mifflin County has a very bright future moving forward, and that the county has a proud partner in DCNR.

Adjournment

Susan closed the meeting by thanking the speaker, the staff and all those who attended. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. upon a motion by Neal Shawver that was seconded by Brent Miller.