

MINUTES OF MEETING
Durham Township Planning Commission
February 7, 2017
Township Meeting Room

Attendees:

Ann Marshall (AM) Jim Beerer (JB), Heath Millett (HM), Kathy Gentner (KG), and Matt Crouse (MC).
Absent: Anthony Mills (AM) and Stephen Willey (SW)

Quorum: Yes

Call to order 7:50PM

Approval of minutes January 4th, 2017 –

Motion to approve – JB, Second-MC, Vote 5-0

New Business:

Approval of final fixes in Comprehensive Plan, vote to deliver to supervisors/township manager, with ask that it comes back to us once it has been typed and re-formatted.

Motion JB, Second, AM – 5-0 deliver finalized draft to Joe.

PennEast Update: AM showed everyone PennEast’s new “IBA” routes that cut through a much larger area of Durham. The routes were proposed by PennEast as possible alternatives should they be forced to move the line from “Important Bird Areas” in NJ. While not their preferred route, this route could be used and has been put on the official docket.

AM suggested that Durham Township inform residents of this possible route using their email announcement service and by hanging the map in the township offices for people to check. AM shared important upcoming dates where the public and townships can be heard and stay involved.

A decision was made that the Planning Commission would remind the Supervisors about important regulatory dates coming up and ask them to hang maps of the IBA routes with details about how to get more information.

Old Business:

KG asks – Marijuana/Hemp – zoning laws are we interested in pursuing this?

HM says it is his understanding that this zoning would not work/make sense in our township.

CS says she thinks that we may, in fact, have to do something about the ordinance, according to an article she read recently.

JB mentions that Durham-Nox Elementary School may be closed due to a crashing population.

AM agreed to be the liaison for Supervisor meeting.

Public Comment:

Resident Sarah Snider thanked the board for their service.

Cindy Skoriak (speaking as a private resident) asked if we would consider sending a letter to the supervisors about the manner in which Lois Oleksa was removed from the planning Commission and our appreciation for her contribution to the Planning Commission, which has saved the township tens of thousands of dollars. Some discussion ensued, no action was taken.

Motion to close – 8:47 JB Motion – Second MC – 5-0