

MINUTES
MIFFLIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019
PENN VALLEY CHRISTIAN RETREAT – 5:45 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Dan Dunmire
Thomas Lake
David Pennebaker
Kay Semler
Neal Shawver
Kent Spicher

Staff

Bill Gomes, Director
Jim Lettiere, CD Administrator / Assistant Director
Doug Marks, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist /
Construction Manger
Chastity Fultz, Grant / Office Manager
Stacey Herman, CDBG Fiscal Manager

Guest

John Allison, Menno Township Supervisor
Darren Asper, Delta Development Group Inc.
Michael Baker, Mifflin County Courthouse
Marcie Barber, Juniata Valley Bank
Barry Bargo, Municipal Authority of the Borough of
Lewistown
Deborah Bargo, Lewistown Borough Mayor
Representative Kerry Benninghoff
Dan Beyer, The EADS Group
David Borland, Downtown Lewistown Inc.
Merry Bratton, Mifflin County Tax Services Bureau
Mike Buffington, One Stop Communications
Alyssa Burd, The Sentinel
Will Campbell, Juniata Valley Bank
Tammy Casey, Juniata County Planning Department
Evelyn Chianelli, DCED Community Affairs and
Development
Dain Davis, The EADS Group
Oksana Dearment, United Way of Mifflin-Juniata
Counties
Ashley Duncan, Barton & Loguidice
Stephen Dunkle, Mifflin County Commissioner
Sue Dunmire
Roland Fagan, McVeytown Borough Council
Steve Feathers, McVeytown Borough Council
Gina Felice
Nick Felice, Mifflin County Industrial Development
Corp.
Linus Fenicle, Reager and Adler, PC
Allison Fisher, Mifflin-Juniata Human Services

Terry Foster, MCS Bank
Donald Gearhart, Wayne Township Supervisor
Eileen Gearhart
Sandy Gomes
Alice Gray, Juniata County Commissioner
Beverly Green, Penelec
Paul Grego, Juniata Valley Bank
Lonnie Griffith, Mifflin County Maintenance Dept
Keith Gruber, McVeytown Borough Council
Michael Hain, Nittany Media Inc.
Barb Harer, Mifflin County Internet Advisory
Committee
Jacob Harper, McVeytown Borough Council
A. J. Hartsock, Geisinger
Allana Hartung, Kish Bank
Representative John Hershey
Torrey Hildebrand, Menno Township Supervisor
Gerald Hummel, Greater Lewistown Corp
Susan Hunter, Granville Township Planning
Commission
Representative Rich Irvin
Harold Johnson Jr, Menno Township Supervisor
Lois Johnson
Ann Kanagy, Parks and Recreation Council
Quill Kanagy
Brad Kerstetter, Juniata County Planning
Department
Kevin Kodish, Mifflin County Commissioner
Murray Laite, Municipal Authority of the Borough of
Lewistown
Andrew Leguen, MCS Bank
Terry Linn
Mark Long, Office of Rep. Benninghoff
Bonnie Mark, Delta Development Group Inc.
Jones Marker, Municipal Authority of the Borough of
Lewistown
Diana L McClure, Keller Engineers Inc
Rhonda Moore, Juniata Valley Chamber of
Commerce
Thomas Moore
Marie Mulvihill, Primary Health Network
Lucas Parkes, The EADS Group
Paula Pearce, First National Bank
Judy Pecht
Scott Pecht, Brown Township Supervisor
Robert Postal Jr., Mifflin County Commissioner
Mary Ellen Reed
Theodore Reed, Wayne Township Supervisor

Mark Remy, Assistant District Attorney
Cathy Romig, Mifflin County Courthouse
Richard Sarfert, Kish Bank
Pam Sechrist, PACleanways
Dave Semler
Jessica Sheets, Mountain Research, LLC
Ellen Sheetz, First National Bank
Eric Sherman, MCS Bank
Laura Simonetti, Mifflin County GIS
Jim Smith, Sr, Granville Township Supervisor
Sonja Smith
Stephen Snook, Mifflin County Solicitor
Raymond Snyder, Granville Township Planning
Commission
Theodora Snyder
Madison Tate

Michael Tate, GME Communication, LLC
Chris Torquato, District Attorney
Tami Torquato
Jerry Trout, First National Bank
Troy Truax, Michael Baker, Inc.
Kerry Tyson, Century Engineering
Mark VanOuse, Nittany Media Inc.
Richard Vilello, Deputy Secretary Community Affairs
and Development
Don Warntz, Derry Township Supervisor
Scott Welham, Lewistown Borough
Judge Rick Williams
Mindy Williams
Timothy Williams, Barton & Loguidice
Mark Zong, McVeytown Borough Council
James Zubler, Downtown Lewistown Inc.

Dinner

Dave Semler offered the invocation before the dinner.

Introduction of Guest / Opening Comments / 2018 Annual Report

Kay Semler, Chair, welcomed everyone to the Annual Dinner Meeting and recognized Mifflin County Commissioners Kevin Kodish, Stephen Dunkle and Robert Postal. She expressed her appreciation to the County Commissioners for supporting the Planning Commission's efforts during the past year. Kay also acknowledged some of the other guests in attendance at the meeting. She gave the opening comments and explained the reasons for holding the Planning Commission's Annual Meeting. Kay recognized the Planning Commission members present. Kay then called the meeting to order to review the 2018 Annual Report. She turned the meeting over to Bill Gomes, who began with introducing the Planning and Development Department Staff. Bill reviewed the 2018 Annual Report. Kent Spicher made a motion to adopt the 2018 Annual Report. Dave Pennebaker seconded the motion. All members present voted aye.

Awards Presentation

The Community Planning Award is presented by the Mifflin County Planning Commission to an individual, organization, or community that has demonstrated leadership in community planning. This year, two awards were given. The first award was presented by the Planning Commission to the Juniata River Trail recognizing Lewistown Borough for their collaborative effort with Mifflin County and the Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council to improve the quality of life for residents of Mifflin County. The second award was presented by the Planning Commission to the Monument Square Bus Shelter recognizing Rhonda Moore in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce for the cooperative effort between the local residents, community organizations, the private sector and a local municipality to help install a safe place travelling into and out of Mifflin County.

The Planning Excellence Award recognizes an individual for contributions to planning related activities in the County. This is a joint award presented by the Mifflin County Commissioners and the Mifflin County Planning Commission. This award was presented to Harold Johnson for his contributions to planning and improving the quality of life in Mifflin County.

Featured Speaker

The featured speaker for the evening was Richard Vilello, Deputy Secretary for Community Affairs and Development, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. Mr. Vilello addressed various development efforts throughout the state. He shared personal experiences as previous Mayor of Lock Haven and other roles at the state level. Mr. Vilello noted that many local officials serve multi-terms and run unopposed. He also noted the fire services are in crises with declining

numbers of volunteers and increasing ages of volunteers. He encouraged those in attendance to make it better for the next generation by working together. Mr. Vilello praised the effort of the local planning commissions.

Adjournment

Kay closed the meeting by thanking the speaker, the staff and all those who attended. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. upon a motion by Dave Pennebaker that was seconded by Neal Shawver.