

MINUTES
MIFFLIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2016
LEWISTOWN COUNTRY CLUB – 6:15 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Michele Bair
Dan Dunmire
Dave Pennebaker
Thomas Lake
Kent Spicher

Staff

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

Guest

John Allison, Menno Township
Darren Asper, Delta Development Group Inc
Dana Aurand
Don Baker, PA Cleanways
Barry Bargo, Municipal Authority of the Borough of
Lewistown
Deborah Bargo, Lewistown Borough Mayor
Ryan Barton, Office of U.S. Congressman Tom
Marino
Holly, Office of U.S. Congressman Tom Marino
John Breneman, Senator Jake Corman's Office
Craig Bubb, Municipal Authority of The Borough of
Lewistown
Will Campbell, Juniata Valley Bank
Ken Coleman, The EADS Group
Mark Colussy, Huntingdon County Planning &
Development
Ron Colwell, Menno Township
John Curto, Northwest Savings Bank
Secretary Dennis Davin, PA Department of
Community & Economic Development
Dain Davis, The EADS Group
Stephen Dunkle, Mifflin County Commissioner
Sue Dunmire
Renata Engel, Penn State Outreach
James Estep, Mifflin County School District
Jason Finnerty, Tri-County Planning Commission
Allison Fisher, Mifflin-Juniata Human Services
Kenneth Fisher, MCS Bank
Ruth Fisher
Doug Foltz, Gannett Fleming Inc.

Bill Fontana, Pennsylvania Downtown Center
Terry Foster, MCS Bank
Mark Garlicki, Gannett Fleming Inc. - State College
Judge Aaron Gingrich, Mifflin County Courthouse
Sandy Gomes
Beverly Green, Penelec
David Harmon, Newton Hamilton Borough
Allana Hartung, Kish Bank
Dan Heher, Penelec
Gerald Hummel, Greater Lewistown Corp
Tracey Huston, Penn State Outreach
Representative Richard Irvin
Harold Johnson Jr, Menno Township
Ann Kanagy, Parks and Recreation Council
Quill Kanagy
Terry Keene, Keene Environmental Consulting
Lyndsay Kensinger, PA Department of Community
and Economic Development
Doug Kepner, Juniata Terrace Borough
Lauren Kershner, The Sentinel
Kevin Kodish, Mifflin County Commissioner
Mike Lefevre, Geisinger - Lewistown Hospital
Jamie Lefevre
Congressman Tom Marino
Bonnie Mark, Delta Development Group Inc.
Diana L McClure, Keller Engineers Inc
Mike McMonigal, United Way of Mifflin-Juniata
Counties
Lori McMonigal
Brent Miller, Juniata Valley Bank
Randy Miller, MCS Bank
Marie Mulvihill, Primary Health Network
Don Mulvihill
Ashtyn Napikoski
Tyler Napikoski
Lisa Nancollas, Mifflin County Commissioner
Lucas Parkes, The EADS Group
Rob Postal, Mifflin County Industrial Development
Mark Remy, First Assistant District Attorney
John Rhone, Wayne Township
Pam Sechrist, PACleanways
Ellen Sheetz, First National Bank
James Shilling, Kish Bank
Michael Shorr, PA Department of Community &
Economic Development
Kelly Shutes, Derry Township
Emmett Shutes
Jim Smith, Sr, Granville Township Supervisor

Chris Torquato, District Attorney
Tami Torquato
Jerry Trout, First National Bank
James Tunall, Juniata Valley Area Chamber of
Commerce
Judy Tunall
Dianna Walter, Lewistown Borough
Kathy Ward

Pat Ward, Uni-Tec Consulting Engineers Inc
Scott Welham, Lewistown Borough
Judge Rick Williams
Mindy Williams
Timothy Williams, Barton & Loguidice
Amy Wise, Huntingdon County Business and Industry
Jon Zimmerman, Downtown Lewistown Inc.
James Zubler, Downtown Lewistown Inc.

Dinner

Ken Fisher offered the invocation before the dinner.

Featured Speaker

The featured speaker for the evening was Dennis Davin, Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. Secretary Davin's presentation focused on the importance of comprehensive planning in rural communities in Pennsylvania. Prior to the dinner meeting, he participated in a walking tour of downtown Lewistown, where he learned how DCED money had been used and what community leaders would like to continue to see happen.

Secretary Davin opened his presentation by discussing his goal of merging and integrating community and economic development. He explained that putting money and efforts into downtowns makes rural communities sustainable and interesting. Secretary Davin then mentioned potential opportunities for Lewistown. Creating an interesting downtown is what brings young people to want to live in that town. He said that Pittsburgh has seen a substantial increase in the amount of people living in downtown because of interesting activities like microbreweries and walking trails. By having places that make downtown interesting, not only will people stay, but they will also come. He added that when businesses look for places to expand or move to, they look at the sustainability of the surrounding community.

Introduction of Guest / Opening Comments / 2015 Annual Report

Dan Dunmire, Chair, welcomed everyone to the Annual Dinner Meeting and recognized Mifflin County Commissioners Lisa Nancollas, Stephen Dunkle and Kevin Kodish. He expressed his appreciation to the County Commissioners for supporting the Planning Commission's efforts during the past year. Dan also acknowledged some of the other guests in attendance at the meeting. He gave the opening comments and explained the reasons for holding the Planning Commission's Annual Meeting. Dan recognized the Planning Commission members present. Dan then called the meeting to order to review the 2015 Annual Report. He turned the meeting over to Bill Gomes, who began with introducing the Planning and Development Department Staff. Bill reviewed the 2015 Annual Report while Chastity Fultz managed the slide show presentation. Kent Spicher made a motion to adopt the 2015 Annual Report. Dave Pennebaker seconded the motion. All members present voted aye.

Awards Presentation

The Community Planning Award presented by the Mifflin County Planning Commission recognizes an individual or organization for contributions to planning related activities in the County. There were two community planning awards presented this year. The first award was presented to the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Lewistown in recognition for the support of community projects that have benefited citizens throughout Mifflin County. The second award was presented jointly to Derry Township, the Mifflin County Parks and Recreation Council, and Mifflin County for a collaborative effort to improve the quality of life to the residents of the County by the development of the Kish Dog Park.

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 Ronald Napikoski for his contributions to planning and improving the quality of life in Mifflin County.

Additional Comments

Congressman Tom Marino shared a few brief comments at the end of the meeting.

Adjournment

Dan closed the meeting by thanking the speaker, the staff and all those who attended. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 upon a motion by Michelle Bair that was seconded by Kent Spicher.