

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP/HEREFORD TOWNSHIP JOINT  
PLANNING COMMISSION/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 12, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Washington Township/Hereford Township joint planning commission/Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order at 6 PM. It was noted that the meeting was properly advertise in the Pottstown Mercury.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present; from Hereford Township was Curt Kuhns, Planning Commission, Karla Dexter, Board of Supervisors/Planning Commission and from Washington Township were Elaine Pennington, Planning Commission/Transportation Committee, Daniel Stauffer, Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals and James Roma, Board of Supervisors. There was also one Washington Township resident in attendance.

Absent: Karen Wright – Planning Commission, Hereford Township

Township supervisor attendees:

Hereford Township: John Membrino, Jeff Sell

Washington Township: Ernest Gehman, Tonya Bauer

No agenda was provided for tonight's meeting. Meeting minutes from the 2009 meetings were not reviewed for approval purposes. The minutes were referenced but not made part of the meeting record. General discussion about the committee was held;

- Karla Dexter thanks Washington Township for intervening in their court case with the Radnor Development Company LP. Mr. Roma stated the Board of Supervisors felt it was necessary because of the Joint Comprehensive Plan.
- James Roma provided a brief update on the ongoing development projects in Washington Township. Referenced were the West Tract, Spring Valley Village and the Gehringer Farms projects.
- Karla Dexter stated that Hereford Township does not have any large ongoing projects. She referenced some items in the planning stages including the Appold-Clemmer Farm project. James Roma stated that for the record he was related to the former owner of that property.
- James Roma inquired if Hereford Township had any civil, public or social service topics which would need to be discussed. Karla Dexter advised that she would consider items for next meeting.
- Ernest Gehman provided an update on the consolidation efforts of the local fire companies all members of the committee were in agreement that local volunteer fire companies and ambulance corps provide an invaluable service to the public. If there were

no volunteers, the responsibility to provide fire company services would fall upon local governments. Discussion included how difficult it is becoming to get new members to join the firefighter ranks.

- Daniel Stauffer opened discussion on the Townships joining the Bally/Bechtelsville joint comprehensive plan.
- John Membrino expressed similar desires. He acknowledged Hereford took their time in the past in making the decision to join or not due to other commitments.

Meeting action items:

1. To have Township manager Jason Ganster check on the status of the Bally/Bechtelsville joint comp plan.
2. To have Township manager Jason Ganster check to see if there is a legal requirement for the committee to keep meeting. The committee wishes to keep meeting.
3. To have the April 12, 2010 meeting minutes circulated to all the joint planning commission members for approval. The meeting minutes will then be forwarded to the Berks County planning commission.

**Public comment:**

Washington Township resident Michael Krestynick asked a question to Hereford Township representatives how long was Hereford Township in litigation with the Radnor Development Group. Karla Dexter replied since the fall of 2009. Mr. Krestynick then questioned her for Township representatives as to what level of involvement is Washington Township with them which led to a question about costs. Daniel Stauffer commented that this was not the focus of tonight's meeting. James Roma stated that Mr. Krestynick could ask these questions at the next Board of Supervisors meeting. Mr. Krestynick then questioned James Roma why he did not include the Charlie Hoffman development plan as one of the active plans in the Township. Mr. Krestynick felt that this should be included because Mr. Hoffman recently submitted a sketch plan and it was reviewed by the planning commission. James Roma stated that the plan was not active and reminded Mr. Krestynick that the plan has been inactive since 2002. Elaine Pennington also stated to Mr. Krestynick that the planning commission will be forwarding a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to reject this plan.

Further discussion was had on the Bally/Bechtelsville joint comprehensive plan. Daniel Stauffer motioned and seconded by Elaine Pennington to recommend to the Washington Township Board of Supervisors that Washington Township join the Bally/Bechtelsville Joint Comprehensive Plan. **No comment received.**

**All ayes**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jason S. Ganster  
Township manager

# Washington Township