

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MORRIS COUNTY PLANNING BOARD**

30 Schuyler Place
March 15, 2018

Morristown
New Jersey

Chairman Rattner called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Chairman Rattner invited members to join in for the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Those present were:

Steve Rattner, Chairman	Christine Marion, Planning Director
Isobel Olcott, Vice Chair	Anthony Soriano, Supervising Planner
Ted Eppel, Secretary	Greg Perry, Supervising Planner
Everton Scott	Joe Barilla, Principal Planner
Christopher Vitz, County Engineer	W. Randall Bush, Attorney
Nita Galate, Alt. 1	Rene Axelrod, Recording Secretary
Christian Francioli, Alt. 2	

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

Chairman Rattner stated that the Secretary of the Board provided public notice of this meeting in a legal notice dated February 4, 2018.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Chairman Rattner identified an amendment to the February minutes related to a dam on the Musconetcong River. Ms. Olcott moved the minutes as amended of the February 15, 2018 meeting. Mr. Eppel seconded the motion and all approved by voice vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Board accepted the Director's Report for February 2018 and it will be placed on file.

Ms. Marion reported that the 2020 Census Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Program materials were received on March 5, 2018. She stated that a secure room and secure computer have been set up for material review and that access is limited to certain staff working on the LUCA address review. She stated that the review will be completed within 120 days of receipt of the materials.

REPORT OF FUNDS RECEIVED

Funds received for February 2018 totaled \$5,860.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Marion stated she and Ms. Michelin are attending a New Jersey County Planners Association meeting on March 16, 2018. Ms. Marion stated that the meeting agenda includes discussion of the counties' wastewater management plans and proposed amendments to the Municipal Land Use Law.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental and Watershed

County Wastewater Management Plan - Ms. Marion reported on a conference call with the Department of Environmental (DEP) in which DEP staff asked if the Wastewater Management Plan for the County could be completed by May 2018. Ms. Marion stated that County staff have been waiting since November 2016 for DEP comments on the Parsippany chapter. She stated that staff will request an extension, noting that the DEP is undergoing a change in management, which may further impact development of the plan.

Land Subdivision and Zoning

Developments Reviewed – Ms. Olcott reported on the Land Development Review Committee meeting held prior to the Planning Board Meeting on February 15, 2018. Ms. Olcott noted the following applications:

1. Washington Township, Heath Village West-Residential –this site plan is for the residential age-restricted portion of the Heath Village West development. County Engineering will review this application to assess stormwater management and roadway improvements. Chairman Rattner reported that he received a report from the Washington Township Planning Board to the Musconetcong River Management Council stating that the Township Board is happy with the protections of the river included with this site plan.
2. Wanaque Borough, Passaic County, Celtic Knot – The Morris County Planning Board is acting as the reviewing authority for this site plan application concerning a property in the Borough of Wanaque, Passaic County. One of the Passaic County Planning Board members has a conflict of interest with respect to reviewing this project. The site plan concerns renovations to a bar, changes to parking and the addition of a sidewalk, curbing, and a handicapped ramp. Stormwater management will be required for this site.

Mrs. Olcott then made a motion to approve the Report of Actions Taken on Development Plans for February 2018. Mr. Scott seconded the motion and it was approved by roll call vote.

VOTE	Aye	Nay	Abs.
Douglas R. Cabana, Freeholder Dir.	-		
Ted Eppel, Secretary	x		
Stephen Jones	-		
Christine Meyers, Freeholder	-		
Isobel Olcott, Vice Chair	x		
Annabel Pierce	-		
Everton Scott	x		
Christopher Vitz, County Engineer	x		
Deborah Smith, Freeholder Alt.	-		
Nita Galate (alt. 1)	x		
Christian Francioli (alt. 2)	x		
Roslyn Khurdan, (Eng. alt.)	-		
Steve Rattner, Chairman	x		

Legislative and Municipal

Recent Legislation – Mr. Soriano reported on the introduction of 20 new bills, noting that only six of these bills were not reintroductions of bills considered during the last legislative session. Of the new bills, two concerned agriculture and were related to bee-keeping and wineries. He then gave an overview of several new bills. One new bill related to tax credits for residential and mixed-use parking lots. There were two new environmental bills concerning flooding and the pipeline permit approval process and that there was one new housing bill concerning the ability of municipalities to prioritize residents in affordable housing applications. One new bill was signed into law, that being S598, which requires New Jersey to join the United States Climate Alliance to uphold the Paris Climate Accord.

Master Plan & Land Use Ordinance Monthly Report – Mr. Soriano stated that there were no master plan amendments received.

Mr. Sitlick stated that six proposed ordinances and two adopted ordinances were received and processed in February 2018. An ordinance from Rockaway Township would establish a new RMF-8A Multi-family Residential District that includes an affordable housing requirement. He then reported on the introduction of an East Hanover Township ordinance concerning the revised Varityper Redevelopment Plan, noting the differences between the new plan and the previous Varityper Redevelopment Plan adopted in 2006. He also described an ordinance from the Township of Mendham pertaining to townhouse development in the Reuse and Reconstruction of Existing Building Overlay Zone.

Ms. Marion reported that New Jersey Future gave a presentation on proposed changes to the Municipal Land Use Law at the last County Planners Association meeting and that these changes would incorporate hazard mitigation and resiliency as required elements of a municipal master plan. Ms. Marion stated that this issue will be further discussed at the County Planners meeting being held in March and that she will report back to the Board on this issue.

Long Range Planning

Mr. Soriano reported on the progress of the Morris County Circulation Plan Element, stating that he has been in constant contact with Jerry Rohsler, John Hayes and Gene Cass, Supervising Cartographer, concerning the format of the Plan. He reported that formatting, map edits, the addition of photos, and other final additions/minor edits are being made to complete the final draft and bring it to the Board for their review and approval. Mr. Soriano stated that staff are working to have this final draft available to the Board in April. Ms. Marion stated that once the final draft is approved by the Board, the next step will be to issue public notice concerning a hearing for adoption of the Plan.

Lake Hopatcong Commission

Ms. Marion had nothing to report.

Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board/ Musconetcong River Management Council

Chairman Rattner informed the Board that he heard from the Regional Superintendent of the New Jersey Park Service indicating that the Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board will be allowed to take the hydro-rake material and harvested vegetation to the Tilcon site for disposal this year. He also stated that two private companies will also be permitted to recycle weeds and other types of vegetation.

Morris County Open Space Trust Fund

Ms. Marion stated that the Open Space Committee will meet on March 27, 2018. Chairman Rattner reported that there was a closing in Mount Arlington Borough on March 1, 2018.

Trail Construction Trust Fund Committee

Ms. Olcott reported that the Committee secured a trail construction professional to speak to potential applicants at the Program Orientation Workshop on April 26, 2018.

Correspondence and Reports Received

Ms. Marion had nothing to report.

Other Business

Current Demographic Trends - Mr. Sitlick gave a PowerPoint presentation on recent Morris County demographic and economic trends. Mr. Sitlick presented slides on a variety of topics, including births, population growth, racial diversity, age, median household income and housing costs, poverty rates, income, migration, employment, educational attainment and other demographic data. He also provided information concerning unemployment, county business characteristics, occupational characteristics, anticipated job growth by occupation and industry. He summarized major findings and the Board thanked Mr. Sitlick for his presentation.

LEGAL UPDATE

Mr. Bush had nothing to report.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50 p.m., Mr. Vitz moved to adjourn the meeting it was seconded by Chairman Rattner and all approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Marion, P.P./AICP
Planning Director

Original was signed and is on file at the office of the Morris County Planning Board.