

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

30 Schuyler Place  
July 17, 2014

Morristown  
New Jersey

Chairman Falkoski called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW**

Chairman Falkoski stated that the Secretary of the Board provided public notice of this meeting in a legal notice dated February 8, 2014.

**ROLL CALL**

Those present were:

Joseph Falkoski, Chairman	Christine Marion, Planning Director
Steve Rattner, Vice-Chair	Deena Leary, Department Director
Isobel Olcott, Secretary	Anthony Soriano, Supervising Planner
Christopher Vitz, County Engineer	Greg Perry, Supervising Planner
Ted Eppel	Joe Barilla, Principal Planner
Everton Scott	Rene Axelrod, Recording Secretary
Annabel Pierce (arrived at 7:35)	
Nita Galate, Alt. #2	

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Ms. Olcott moved approval of the minutes of the June 19, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rattner and was approved by roll call vote.

<b>VOTE</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abs.</b>
Ted Eppel			x
Thomas Mastrangelo, Freeholder Dir.	-		
Isobel Olcott, Secretary			x
Annabel Pierce	-		
Steve Rattner, Vice-Chair	x		
David Scapicchio, Freeholder	-		
Everton Scott	x		
Christopher Vitz, County Engineer	x		
John Cesaro, Freeholder Alt.	-		
Stephen Jones, (Alt.1)	-		
Nita Galate, (Alt. 2)	x		
Roslyn Khurdayan, (Eng. Alt.)	-		
Joseph Falkoski, Chairman	x		

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Board accepted the Director's Report for June – July 2014 and it will be placed on file.

Ms. Olcott asked about the census information in the Director's Report and Ms. Marion stated she would talk about census issues later in the meeting. Mr. Rattner informed the Board that he just came from a Community Development meeting where he learned that several awards granted were being reversed due to the new census figures, retroactive to January 1, 2014. He stated that one of the towns that was to receive a grant no longer qualified, and said this illustrated the importance of staying informed on changes to the census.

## **REPORT OF FUNDS RECEIVED**

Funds received for June 2014 totaled \$4,085.

Ms. Olcott asked if there was a fee for the review of concept plans and Mr. Perry said there is no charge for such plans. She noted that review of large concept plans is time consuming and suggested that the Board consider whether the County Land Development fees should be amended to permit the collection of fees associated with the County review of such plans.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Ms. Marion had nothing to report.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Environment and Watershed**

***Wastewater Management Plan*** – Ms. Marion reported that Ms. Michelin is continuing her work on the Wastewater Management Plan. She stated that the Jefferson Township chapter has been submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and that the DEP has not yet responded. The plan still must be reviewed by Sussex County since a portion of Jefferson is in the Sussex County water quality management planning area. Work continues on developing the Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) chapters for the municipalities served by the Rockaway Valley Regional Sewerage Authority (RVRSA). She informed the Board that there are issues associated with the delineation of the Mine Hill Township sewer service area. Parsippany-Troy Hills Township has withdrawn from Highlands Regional Master Plan Conformance and that staff will now be working on developing the Township's WMP chapter. Parsippany's Skyview pump stations has failed and that a new connection to the Greystone plant is being considered.

## ***Watershed Activities***

Ms. Marion stated that the Rockaway River Watershed Cabinet met. She reported that Pat Rector of Rutgers Cooperative Extension attended a meeting and spoke about initiatives that could be undertaken by the Cabinet. The Cabinet is considering a rain barrel program in which rain barrels would be painted by local artists and auctioned to raise money and awareness. Ms. Marion reported that she did not know if Parsippany Troy-Hills received the 604B grant from the DEP, which they applied for to study alternate de-icing techniques.

## **Land Subdivision and Zoning**

***Developments Reviewed*** – Mr. Rattner reported that the Land Development Review Committee met on July 17, 2014 to review several applications:

1. Conceptual Review RG-Columbia, LLC in Morris Township (Honeywell Campus). The Land Development Review Committee reviewed the General Development Plan Report for the Honeywell project as a concept plan. No site plan has been submitted at this time.
2. Morris Plains Affordable Housing in Morris Plains Borough - This site plan is for a 56-unit 100% affordable housing apartment building located on Route 53 that is to be managed by the Madison Housing Authority. The Committee agreed to a waiver request from the requirement for a stormwater management report since the site drains directly to Route 53 and will be reviewed by the NJDOT.
3. Panera Bread in Parsippany-Troy Hills Township – This site plan is for the construction of Panera Bread with a drive-thru in the Troy Hills Shopping Center. There will be no impact upon County facilities or structures.
4. Wildlife Preserves in Parsippany-Troy Hills Township – This application concerns a site plan and a major subdivision involving two lots owned by Wildlife Preserves. The first lot involves a concept major subdivision and staff will provide comments with respect to stormwater and environmental concerns for this proposal. Staff has requested missing information required for the review of the second lot.
5. County College of Morris-Music Technology Building, in Randolph Township – This site plan is for a two story music technology building to be attached to the community center at the college. County Engineering will review for stormwater issues.
6. Athletic Fields in Rockaway Township – This site plan is for the construction of turf athletic fields. County Engineering will review for stormwater issues.

Ms. Olcott made a motion to approve the Report of Actions Taken on Development Plans for June 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rattner and approved by roll call vote.

VOTE	Aye	Nay	Abs.
Ted Eppel	x		
Thomas Mastrangelo, Freeholder Dir.	-		
Isobel Olcott, Secretary	x		
Annabel Pierce	-		
Steve Rattner, Vice-Chair	x		
David Scapicchio, Freeholder	-		
Everton Scott	x		
Christopher Vitz, County Engineer	x		
John Cesaro, Freeholder Alt.	-		
Stephen Jones, (Alt.1)	-		
Nita Galate, (Alt. 2)	x		
Roslyn Khurday, (Eng. Alt.)	-		
Joseph Falkoski, Chairman	x		

### **Legislative and Municipal**

**Recent Legislation** – Mr. Soriano reported that there was activity on 38 of the 392 tracked bills since the last meeting. The Assembly is not in session, but the Senate is scheduled to meet a few more times. Several bills passed both Houses and were sent to the Governor. Assembly Bill A1907 would reinstate the moratorium on imposition of State-wide non-residential development fees until January 2015. Assembly Bill A1471, which would permit alternate members of county planning boards to vote in place of any absent public member, passed both houses. Several appropriation bills also had passed both houses.

**Master Plan & Land Use Ordinance Monthly Report** - Mr. Soriano stated there were no master plan amendments submitted during the month. Mr. Soriano then reported on the Land Use Ordinance Monthly Report, stating that there were seven (7) proposed ordinances and four (4) adopted ordinances for a total of eleven (11) ordinances processed for June 2014. An ordinance proposed by the Township of Pequannock would rezone thirteen lots from a Regional Commercial District to a new I-1 Industrial District.

### **Long Range Planning**

Mr. Soriano informed the Board that staff had received data from the NJ Department of Community Affairs (DCA) on new residential construction sales and that Mr. Sitlick has begun reviewing and verifying this data. Preliminary figures indicated an upward trend in new residential construction sales for 2013. Ms. Marion then discussed the new census information concerning the age of the population and that the median age of Morris County residents is rising. The youngest baby-boomers are entering their 50s' and she noted a decline of people between the ages of 40 and 50 in Morris County, along with a decline in the county birth rate.

**COAH Update** – Mr. Soriano informed the Board that the Fair Share Housing Center (FSHC) has three lawsuits against the recently released COAH rules and COAH obligation figures concerning

the release of the scope of services between the State and Rutgers, changes in the rules made after the COAH public hearing, and missing data related to the calculation of municipal affordable housing obligations.

## **LAISON REPORTS**

### **Lake Hopatcong Commission**

Ms. Marion stated no report was received.

### **Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board/ Musconetcong River Management Council**

Mr. Rattner informed the Board that the Lake Musconetcong Regional Planning Board is very happy with its management plan, which is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year of implementation and the lake has fewer weeds and water chestnuts. The annual Lake Clean-Up will be held this weekend and that many private companies will be providing volunteers and resources, and that the Morris County Park Commission will provide some of the boats. The Lake Board is still waiting for the parts needed to repair the weed harvester from the Lake Hopatcong Commission.

**Morris County Open Space Trust Fund Committee** - Ms. Leary informed the Board that applications were received for the 2014 Funding Round on June 20, 2014. She reported that there were eleven applications requesting 21 million dollars and stated that an application was submitted to preserve the portion of Giralda Farms in Chatham Township. She stated that the Committee will start the review process in September.

**Morris County Agriculture Development Board** – Ms. Marion stated that there were thirteen farm applications received; three applications will be fully funded by the County and ten will be submitted to the State. She stated that the 13 farms comprise a total of almost 500 acres, with a preliminary cost estimate to the county of approximately 12 million dollars. She noted the increase in activity in both the farmland and open space programs.

## **CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS RECEIVED**

Mr. Marion had nothing to report.

### **Report of Meetings**

### **Other Business**

**Morris County Preservation Trust Fund Analysis and Strategy Report**- Ms. Marion thanked staff who assisted the consultant with developing the Morris County Preservation Trust Fund Analysis and Strategy Report. The project began last October and that the report and economic impact analysis was completed on time. The report findings show a continuing need for the Preservation Trust Program. The consultant gave a presentation at the July 9, 2014 Morris County Freeholder work session on the findings of the report. Based on the findings, staff drafted three ballot questions on possible amendments for the use of open space trust funding and the allocation of the funding. She noted that none of these ballot questions would raise the open space tax. Ms. Leary

stated that the report findings and possible ballot questions will likely be further discussed at the next Freeholder meeting.

## **LEGAL UPDATE**

None

## **Comments from the Public**

No comments.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:50 p.m., Mr. Vitz moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Olcott seconded, 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.*