

MINUTES
MONMOUTH COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MEETING
Monday, June 16, 2014
2:00PM

Planning Board Conference Room, Hall of Records Annex, 2nd Floor
One East Main Street, Freehold, New Jersey, 07728

1) CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Domidion called the meeting to order at 2:10PM.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3) OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Counsel Aikins read the "Open Public Meetings Act" Compliance Statement.

4) ROLL CALL

Members Present: Vincent Domidion, Charles Casagrande, Jennifer DiLorenzo, James Giannell, Nancy Grbelja, Paul Kiernan, Joseph Ettore, Freeholder DiMaso and Freeholder Director Burry

Alternates Present: John Mele, Marcy McMullen

Also Present: Mark Aikins, Esq., Edward Sampson, Joe Barris and JoAnn Denton

5) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Domidion referenced his report which the members received, complete with his hand-drawn bar graphs depicting age categories and population trends from 1940-2010. Chairman would like to see more framing data such as this included in the Master Plan. Also referenced was the Blue Acres program, prompting discussion amongst the Board members concerning reasons Monmouth County towns are not participating in the program.

6) MEETING MINUTES

Freeholder Director Burry offered a motion to accept the minutes of the May 19, 2014 meeting and was seconded by Paul Kiernan. Minutes were approved by all in attendance, except Ms Grbelja and Freeholder DiMaso, who abstained.

7) CORRESPONDENCE

a.) Resolution 14-133 was from the Borough of Highlands amending Master Plan Working Group Alternate

b.) Monmouth County 2013 Profile Distribution

Chairman Domidion commended Laura Kirby for her great work on the 2013 Profile. Noted for the record was that the total Monmouth County population as reported in 2010 is 630,380.

c.) COAH 3rd round regulations distributed to the municipalities

Mr. Sampson reported that the letter and data distributed to the municipalities was to make them aware that the COAH obligations have been published along with the comment period dates and instructions, and each municipality should check their respective obligation numbers.

Mr. Mele stated that he and his Township Planning Board Secretary sat in on the recent COAH webinar. Feedback that he has received is that it is fruitless to comment because the plan must be adopted. Mr. Sampson said that Monmouth County will be commenting and the Board members will be given that draft next month.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS

a.) Development Review Committee

Chairman Domidion stated that Schedules 1202 A, B, C, D & E from the Monday, April 28, 2014 meeting and Schedules 1203 A, B, C D & E from the Monday, May 12, 2014 meeting were in the possession of the Board Secretary and available for review.

b.) Monmouth County Agriculture Development Board Update, Harriet Honigfeld

Ms Honigfeld reported the LaRue Right to Farm hearing was concluded at the last Agriculture Development Board meeting. The Ag Board adopted several Resolutions and issues regarding lighting, farm trails and the use of milled lumber from the farm to build agriculture buildings were decided. An issue regarding cattle was determined premature and a composting issue was found to be out of the Ag Board's jurisdiction.

Freeholder Director Burry asked Ms Honigfeld how a "Farmland Preserved" sign is obtained. Ms Honigfeld stated sign request forms are given to the property owner at the closing and completed forms must be submitted to SADC. The State installs the signs, which are free of charge and at the sole discretion of the farmer.

Chairman Domidion said that the 2012 Census of Agriculture figures reported 823 farms in Monmouth County, with approximately 24,000 acres not preserved, giving us a universe of what is still available for preservation.

9) OLD BUSINESS

a.) Master Plan Working Groups

Brittany Ashman reported on the progress of the Master Plan Working Groups. The first set of meeting were: May 14- Arts, Cultural & Historic Resources; May 20- Community Development & Housing; May 28- Agricultural & Economic Development; June 2- Community Resiliency. At the first set of meetings the focus was identifying issues that should be addressed in the Master Plan. The second series of meetings will identify how each element interacts with the others. The third set of meetings will then summarize what we have learned and entertain recommendations to be included in the final Master Plan document. "Save the date" flyers for the second series of meetings were distributed to the Board members in their packets. The second series of meetings will be held either at 4:00PM or 4:30 PM. The first series had 2:00PM and 7:00PM sessions. 7:00PM sessions had very light attendance and with participants' agreement, 4:00PM was determined to be favorable.

Joe Barris stated that every staff member in the Planning Department has been engaged in the Master Plan. Notes from the Working Group meetings are posted on the Planning Board website. GIS has been great with mapping, some of which will be ready to be released for the second phase of meetings. Mr. Barris also extended thanks to the Parks Department for accommodating the second series of meetings in the Visitor's Center at Thompson Park.

Linda Brennen reported that her Master Plan Working Group meetings had a different format and were held in conjunction with the Environmental Council meetings. The first meeting focused on Natural Resources and the second on Utilities. The next meeting will

be held on July 23 focusing on Healthy Communities. On July 31, an Agriculture & Open Space Working Group will meet. Ms Brennen has also had two staff-to-staff meetings with the Parks Department to discuss how their issues overlap on environmental concerns.

Chairman Domidion once again commended the Planning Board Staff for the great job being done with the Working Group Committees.

b.) COAH

Joe Barris stated that he and Laura Kirby reviewed the standard procedural rules from COAH. In the packets, Board members have the draft comments concerning the methodology. After much review, concern is how the data was obtained.

Ed Sampson reported that Round 3 does not allow for Regional Contribution Agreements (RCA's), which were a large component for Rounds 1 and 2. It is his recommendation that RCA's be reconsidered. There is proposed legislation on this matter. Assemblyman Declan O'Scanlon has sponsored A3235, proposing RCA's for the 9 most impacted Superstorm Sandy counties. Senator Kevin O'Toole, has sponsored S2132, re-authorizing RCA's. Mr. Sampson will have a draft letter to COAH, for the Board's approval at the next Planning Board meeting.

Mr. Mele questioned whether the Wastewater Management Plan was adopted. Mr. Barris stated that the plan was not, but the map was adopted and he wants to confirm whether the latest map was used by COAH.

10) NEW BUSINESS

2014 Merit Awards

Linda Brennen provided for the Board members a list of all past Planning Merit Award winners and categories. If the Board would like to continue the program, her recommendation is to send out call-for-entries notices mid-July; have a September nomination deadline; nomination review committee in October, 2014; make a decision at the November 17, 2014 meeting and send out a press release; present award(s) at the December, 2014 Planning Board meeting. Discussion ensued amongst the Board members and consensus was to go forward with the project but to only recognize superior, innovative planning and reserve the right to reject all entries if none were deemed worthy of recognition.

Additional New Business

Joe Barris reported that on Thursday, June 19, 2014, he is on the agenda for the Creative Placemaking Leadership Summit 2014 at Seton Hall University. He will be facilitating the session on: "How to Integrate Arts into Planning Efforts". 350 people have already registered for the meeting.

Mr. Barris also stated that tomorrow he will be at the Monmouth County Greentable event at Manasquan Reservoir and asked Jennifer DiLorenzo, one of the scheduled panelists, if she would like to speak on the topic. Ms DiLorenzo stated that habitat restoration and wetlands restorations that have worked in other parts of the state would be discussed, along with walking and boat tours. Mr. Barris stated the event would assist the department with the Master Plan, in efforts to incorporate natural ways to build resiliency in communities.

Chairman Domidion stated that Mr. Barris is being too modest and he wished to thank him for his Planning efforts that are not only recognized in Monmouth County, but outside the County as well.

Mr. Barris reported that last week he was at a Creative New Jersey Annual Summit, and Jim Hickey acknowledged Monmouth County for its work in promoting the MoCo Arts Corridor. Also last week, Mr. Barris worked a table at the Asbury Park Art Block Party with Monmouth Arts. Our County Public Information & Tourism representatives were also there distributing brochures and promoting "Visit Monmouth".

Jennifer DiLorenzo wanted all to be aware of the CAFRA hearings next week that would be taking place in Long Branch and Trenton. Ed Sampson reported that the DEP has put out new proposed rules, with a comment deadline of August 1, 2014. Monmouth County Planning Department, as well as Engineering and Economic Development will be reviewing the new rules. Mr. Sampson will have more to report next month, and if the Board chooses to comment, it can be done in time for the deadline. Paul Kiernan stated his frustration with CAFRA, as its rules are not consistent for all counties.

11) EXECUTIVE STAFF REPORT

Ed Sampson reported that the Bus Rapid Transit Report is progressing, with a target conclusion of October, 2014. Soon the Planning Department will be distributing the survey the consultant has been working on, and dedicate a page on our website to the study.

Mr. Samspon introduced Summer Intern, Kelsey Dreyer. Ms Dreyer is assisting on many projects, working with everyone in the Planning Department.

Joe Barris reported that the National Association of Counties contacted him and Margaret Murnane-Brooks. The Association is doing a national case study on Monmouth County's efforts with the Community Rating System (CRS) and plans to have it published in time for their national conference next month. Monmouth County will be showcased for its hazard mitigation resiliency efforts and presented as an example for other counties to emulate. As soon as the publication is received, Mr. Barris will distribute it to the Board members.

12) PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jennifer DiLorenzo reported that the Department of Interior announced a \$1.3m dune project for Monmouth Beach. With a match from the municipality, it will be an extensive dune restoration and habitat creation project.

Ms DiLorenzo also attended a meeting at TCNJ, where it was stated that Rutgers and EDP were going to give coastal hazard assistance to 239 towns. When she questioned whether they would be giving this information to the counties, she was told it had never occurred to them. Ms DiLorenzo will supply Mr. Barris with her contact information so he can obtain the data layers to incorporate in the County Master Plan.

13) ADJOURNMENT

At 3:00PM Freeholder Director Burry motioned and Jim Giannell seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and Chairman Domidion adjourned the meeting.

