

**MOUNT POCONO PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

Commissioner K. Kirkwood opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present: Commissioners R. Dorkoski; N. DeLano; M. Penn; H. Velasco; and, P. Bucco. Also, present were Solicitor H. C. Connor; and, Planning Commission Recording Secretary D. Jackowski.

Commissioner R. Varney arrived at 7:05 P.M.

Borough Engineer C. Niclaus and Zoning/ Codes Enforcement Officer D. Noonan were absent;

Representing Borough Council were, President C. Williams, Councilmembers D. Casole A. Montanez. Councilmember S. Stewart-Keeler arrived at 8:05 P.M.

In the audience were: Mr. Michael Reardon of 14 Cedar Road and Zoning Hearing Board member, Mr. Norman DeLano, Jr.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman K. Kirkwood thanked everyone for attending this evening.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair R. Dorkoski moved to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of Wednesday, January 16, 2019, as presented. Commissioner N. DeLano seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Chairman K. Kirkwood recognized Mr. Chris Sarajian, owner of Bailey's Restaurant.

Mr. Sarajian discussed the Pine Hill and SR 611 traffic signal project. He introduced his Engineer Mr. Chris McDermott of Riley & Associates. Mr. McDermott explained that his client would like to extend a road from SR 611 to Industrial Park Drive which would eventually come out onto SR 940. He stated that this would only be possible if the Pine Hill & SR 611 traffic signal light project goes through. He noted that his client, Mr. Sarajian is willing to give up some of his property to make this road possible. He also noted that this road could be an additional access for the fire company.

It was acknowledged that the LSA Grant for the traffic signal project is out of the Borough's hands and that PennDOT is still looking for some signatures. It was also noted that the grant is potentially expiring in June of this year and that an extension should be requested.

There was some discussion from the Councilmembers that were present who indicated that they would support such a plan.

At this time Vice Chair R. Dorkoski moved to send a letter of support to Borough Council and carbon copy PMEDC to extend the LSA Grant for the Pine Hill and SR 611 traffic signal project. Commission N. DeLano seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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INTRODUCTIONS

At this time Chairman K. Kirkwood introduced Patty Bucco as the newest member of the Planning Commission.

Commissioner P. Bucco stated that she has moved here from Florida about five (5) months ago and is interested in serving the Borough. She noted that her experience as a Real Estate Investor could be beneficial to the Planning Commission.

Chairman K. Kirkwood asked Commissioner R. Varney to re-introduce himself, as this is only his second meeting.

Commissioner R. Varney stated that he has been in the Borough for the last three and a half (3 ½) years and is an insurance broker.

2018 Annual Report

The 2018 Annual Report was reviewed.

Vice Chair R. Dorkoski moved to accept the 2018 Annual Report with one (1) correction and send it to Borough Council. Commissioner M. Penn seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SUBMISSIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

DISCUSSION

Coolbaugh Township By-Laws

After it was determined that the Borough Planning Commission doesn't have any by-laws, it was recommended to receive Coolbaugh Township's By-Laws to review.

After a short review, Chairman K. Kirkwood suggested that everyone take them home and that they will review them at next month's meeting.

Lot 28 Pocono Mountain Business Park Request & Info

The Planning Commission acknowledged receipt of a letter from Schlouch Incorporated, the engineer of the proposed project of Lot 28 Pocono Mountain Business Park. The letter requested a joint meeting between the Planning Commissions of Mount Pocono Borough and Coolbaugh Township, due to this project being in both municipalities to review a sketch design. It was

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noted that both municipalities would be willing to conduct a joint meeting. It was also noted that a representative from Schlouch Incorporated contacted the Borough offices stating that they will be making a submission of a sketch plan and they were advised that the deadline is Wednesday, March 27, 2019, to be reviewed by the Planning Commission at its April 17th, meeting.

The main discussion item regarding this proposed project was traffic concerns. It was also noted by Solicitor H. C. Connor that there may be a conflict of interest for him regarding this project as he is also the Solicitor for the Coolbaugh Township Planning Commission.

PROJECT UPDATES

None

LIAISON REPORTS

Borough Council

Councilmember D. Casole reported: that the Hirshland Project is progressing; Borough Council had a work session on March 18th where the proposed Fireworks Ordinance was discussed, and it was decided that Solicitor J. Fareri will review it; it was decided that the Shopping Cart Ordinance will go back to the Planning Commission; and, that the state has enacted a Blight Statute that would escalate the process.

Zoning Hearing Board

Commissioner M. Penn reported that the Zoning Hearing Board did not meet, and that Borough Council appointed a new Solicitor, Mr. Michael Gazza, who lives in the Borough on Fairview Avenue.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

There being no public participation and no further business coming before the Planning Commission, Vice Chair R. Dorkoski moved to adjourn at 8:25 P.M. Commissioner P. Bucco seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Jackowski
Planning Commission Recording Secretary