

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
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NATHANIEL W. KARNIS, A.I.C.P.
Executive Director

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
Commission Development Committee
Minutes September 28, 2017 – APPROVED

Attendees: Sarah Hudson, Kyle Hanlon, CJ Hoss, John Duval
Staff: Tom Matuszko, Marianne Sniezek

Minutes from July 27, 2017 – Action on this item was deferred

Election of Committee Vice-Chair – Sarah Hudson was elected Vice-Chair

5th Thursday dinners – FY 2018 –

- November 30, 2017 – The local planners' perspectives was recommended as the topic; hearing about current work, challenges and what worked well. Invited guests would be CJ Hoss, Larisa Bernstein, Andrew Groff, Chris Rembold and Gwen Miller. Speakers would have about 10 minutes per person. Three of the 5 planners would be needed to have this idea proceed. Tiny houses, from a building code and regulatory challenges perspective was recommended as a second choice. Planning with GIS is to be removed from the list of potentials. Culvert replacement and stream crossing standards was left on the list of potential topics. Committee members were asked to think of new ideas. The recommended location was Mazzeo's.
- March 29, 2018 – Potential topic was tiny houses.
- May 31, 2018 – No discussion on this topic.

Training Topics for Commission Meetings

- November 16, 2017 – The plastic bag ban (lessons learned from Pittsfield) was the recommended topic with Jim McGrath the recommended speaker. Planning with GIS was the second recommended topic.
There was a request from the Chair for thinking about new topics.
A possible new topic was a report about what communities are doing in relationship to the recreational marijuana law. Adams might be pursuing zoning to allow these establishments downtown.
Wireless communication might be another topic
- January 18, 2018

- March 15, 2018
- May 17, 2018

Annual Meeting

Staff reported that the announcement was distributed and Thomas Krens, thanks to Kyle's good work, is the scheduled speaker. There was discussion about the logistics of the meeting and the Kusek award.

Other Items

Membership – there was discussion about expanding the membership. Kyle will bring it up at tonight's Commission meeting.

Mission of this Committee – There was discussion about the role of the Commission Development Committee.

Performance of the Commission – Review of the Performance of the Commission had not been done by this Committee and might be something to be considered by this Committee. Attendance at Commission meetings might be something to be reviewed.

There was discussion about why delegates and alternates participate (or not) in the activities of the Commission. One suggestion was to poll people to determine what brings them to Commission meetings. Are there things going on that you would like to learn about.

Next Meeting – No date or time was proposed for the next meeting.

Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 5:56.