

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

Commission Development Committee of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
November 16, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Minutes

Attendees: CJ Hoss, Kyle Hanlon, Carole Owens, Kate Fletcher, Sarah Hudson
Staff: Tom Matuszko, Marianne Sniezek

1. Committee members introduced themselves
2. The minutes from the September 28, 2017 meeting were moved, seconded and accepted with Kate Fletcher abstaining
3. 5th Thursday dinners – FY 2017
 - November 30, 2017
This dinner, at Mazzeo's, will be the Local Planners' Perspectives, presented in a panel format talking about commonalities and differences between the communities, including some of the basic approaches to common issues, such as the aging population.
 - March 29, 2018
 - Topic: It was agreed the topic would be culvert replacement and stream crossing standards. Tiny houses would best be presented as a brief overview at a Commission meeting, once the new Building Code is out. The staying home initiative for elderly people (Age -Friendly Communities) topic would be monitored to determine if there was going to be a release event. No determination was made about the surveyors, plans and planners topic.
 - In this agenda item there was discussion about the educational role of this committee.
 - In this agenda, there was discussion about reviewing BRPC's bylaws, especially with a new Executive Director coming on board.
 - Speakers: Emily Stockman would be asked to be the presenter.
 - Location – There was no discussion about location.
 - May 31, 2018 meeting – There was no discussion.
4. Training Topics for Commission Meetings
 - November 16, 2017 – The polystyrene and plastics ban is the topic.
 - January 18, 2018 – It was agreed that this would be a report about what communities are doing in response to the recreational marijuana law
 - March 15, 2018 – Potential topic – Tiny houses – pending release of the new Building Code
 - May 17, 2018 – TBD
5. Annual Meeting De-brief – There was discussion about the topic of the speaker, Thomas Krens, especially the far-reaching aspects of it. There were no comments about the logistics, everything seemed satisfactory.

In case of inclement weather, call the BRPC Inclement Weather Hotline 413-442-152 ex 15 to learn if the meeting has been canceled.

6. Delegates and Alternates Participation in the Activities of the Commission – A suggestion was made to ask for more participation in the activities of the BRPC at a 5th Thursday dinner. There was discussion about remote participation, with general discussion it is not as interactive.
7. Soliciting Items from Delegates & Alternates about Future Educational / Informational sessions. There is still a need to get more ideas from Delegates and Alternates about future educational topics.
8. Other Items – There was a request to add an agenda item on the next meeting to discuss a BRPC Transportation Committee and get more information about the TAC.
9. Next Meeting – 6:00 pm - January 18, 2018
10. Adjournment