

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
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SHEILA IRVIN, Chair
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MARIE RAFTERY, Clerk
CHARLES P. OGDEN, Treasurer

NATHANIEL W. KARNS, A.I.C.P.
Executive Director

MEETING NOTICE

A meeting of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
will be held on:

Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Take Note: This is the 1st 3rd Thursday in downtown Pittsfield so finding parking may be an issue. One way to find it is to arrive early and partake in the North Street activities!

Meeting Material: All written materials for the meeting are posted on BRPC's website: www.berkshireplanning.org. Click on the calendar date for the meeting and materials available will be listed.

AGENDA - Amended

I. Opening (7:00-7:05)

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of Minutes of March 17, 2016 Meeting

II. Comments from the Public (7:05-7:10)

Members of the public may offer comments regarding topics which are on the agenda or other matters which they wish to bring to the Commission's attention. Comments are limited to no more than three minutes and are to be directed to the Commission.

III. May 9, 1966- BRPC'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY (7:10-7:20)

Be here to help blow out the candles on the cake!

IV. Delegates' Issues (7:20-7:25)

Delegates and Alternates may bring up any issue not on the agenda.

V. Ride-Hailing Services (i.e. Uber, Lyft) in the Berkshires (7:25-7:45)

The lack of robust public transportation has been a persistent problem in the Berkshires and one which last year's Young Adults Survey and Age-Friendly Surveys helped highlight. Over recent years, private ride-hailing services such as Uber and Lyft, have developed in larger urban areas and are starting to percolate to smaller ones. There has been some effort to dramatically expand ride-hailing services in the Berkshires. Senior Planner Emily Lindsey will brief the Commission on the nature and issues involved with ride-hailing and the status of state legislation to create a regulatory framework.

(over)

VI. FY 2017-2021 Transportation Improvement Program (7:45-8:05)

Staff is in the middle of developing the updated Transportation Improvement Program for the Berkshires which establishes which projects will receive the limited federal transportation funds in the region. The TIP has been expanded to be a five year program, syncing up with the 5-year timeframe of the State's Capital Investment Plan. There have also been issues with the readiness of one project which had been programmed. Therefore there are multiple options for using the highway funds in the region over the upcoming five years. These options will be presented to the Commission. Your discussion and decision will instruct the BRPC Chair on how to vote when this comes to the Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) sometime in June.

VII. FY 2017 Transportation Unified Planning Work Program (8:05-8:15)

Staff is also developing the draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the next fiscal year which allocates how our transportation planning funds will be used. We will have a short discussion regarding the planning studies and analyses we expect to include in the UPWP next year in preparation for the upcoming MPO action on this required document.

VIII. Senate Bill No. 2144: An Act Promoting the Planning & Development of Sustainable Communities (8:15-8:30)

The land use reform legislation which has been kicked around for well over a decade has made some movement this year, making it out of legislative committee, and is expected to be considered at least by the Senate in the coming weeks. The BRPC Regional Issues Committee has reviewed the bill and is recommending comments to be submitted to the General Court. Overall, the recommendation is to support the bill but request some changes.

IX. Consideration of BRPC FY 2017 Budget (8:30-8:40)

X. Nominating Committee Report – Slate of Officers for FY 2017 (8:40-8:45)

XI. Approval of Executive Committee Actions between March 17 and May 5, 2016 (8:45-8:50)

XII. Executive Director's Report (8:50-9:00)

- A. 2017 State Budget and District Local Technical Assistance Funding
- B. Tennessee Gas Pipeline Northeast Energy Direct Project Status
- C. Initial Meeting of Rural Policy Advisory Commission – June 10, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Franklin Regional Council of Governments, Greenfield
- D. Project to Update Mt. Washington's Parcel Maps
- E. Update of Pittsfield's Open Space & Recreation Plan
- F. Initiation of Health Impact Assessment Project for Egremont
- G. Initiation of Tyringham Pavement Management Assessment
- H. Egremont Complete Streets Project
- I. Initiation of Natural Hazard Mitigation Planning Project for Lanesborough
- J. Other

XIII. Adjournment (9:00)

Other interested citizens and officials are invited to attend.
All times listed are estimates of when specific agenda items may be discussed.

City and Town Clerks: Please post this notice pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B