

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
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KYLE HANLON, Chair
SHEILA IRVIN, Vice-Chair
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, September 22, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Offices
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

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

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

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of Minutes of May 19, 2016 Meeting
- D. Approval of Minutes of July 14, 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. Delegate & Alternate Roles & Responsibilities & Overview of Commission Activities (7:10-7:35)

IV. Delegates' Issues (7:35-7:45)

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

V. Consideration of Comments Regarding Building and Related Code Trigger Issues (7:45-8:05)

The Regional Issues Committee has devoted several meetings over the summer to the complex issues involving how various building related code compliance requirements are triggered for building renovations. These involve requirements for water sprinklers, as well as Americans with Disability Act compliance and even seismic code requirements. The Committee was educated by a local designer with considerable experience in these issues and a local building commissioner. A draft letter to the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development is attached for consideration by the Commission.

VI. Consideration of Comments Regarding Need for Continuing Broadband Improvements Statewide (8:05-8:30)

The Regional Issues Committee has also developed a letter to Governor Baker regarding issues with lack of real broadband service in all our communities. While happy that many of our unserved towns are finally proceeding to build-out of fiber to the home solutions, that leaves all other communities at a disadvantage. This will affect the Berkshire's (and entire State's) economic competitiveness in the next few years. A draft letter to Governor Baker is attached for consideration by the Commission.

VII. Consideration of Comments Regarding FERC Regulatory Process for Gas Pipelines (8:30-8:45)

The four Massachusetts and two New Hampshire regional planning agencies which were involved in the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Northeast Energy Direct project issue have drafted a letter to be sent to our U.S. Senators and Congressman requesting changes in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission process. A copy of the proposed letter is attached for your consideration. Each regional commission is asked to adopt the letter and submit it to their federal delegation. We would also share it with Rensselaer County, with whom we worked closely during this process, and request they take similar action.

VIII. Approval of Executive Committee Actions between July 14 and September 22, 2016 (8:45-8:50)

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

- A. Public Meetings for More Efficient BRTA Bus Service – Thursday, September 22nd and Friday, September 23rd
- B. Attorney General's Municipal Law Unit Training on the By-law Adoption, Submission, and Review Process – Tuesday, October 18th, Blandford Town Hall
- C. Status of District Local Technical Assistance Program for 2017
- D. Opening of Fiscal Year 2017 Community Compact Programs Announcement
- E. Berkshire Public Health Alliance Flu Vaccination Clinics
- F. BRPC Annual Dinner – Thursday, October 20th, 5:30 p.m., Pittsfield Country Club
- G. Other

X. Adjournment (9:00)

Other interested citizens and officials are invited to attend.

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