

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
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KYLE HANLON, Chair
JOHN DUVAL, Vice-Chair
SHEILA IRVIN, Clerk
MALCOLM FICK, Treasurer

THOMAS MATUSZKO, A.I.C.P.
Executive Director

MEETING NOTICE

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

Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the BRPC Office
1 Fenn Street, Ste. 201
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Please Note: *In the case of inclement weather on the day of the meeting, please call BRPC (413-442-1521, ext. 5) after 1:00 pm to confirm if the meeting will still be held.*

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 November 21, 2019 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. Delegates and Alternate Issues (7:10-7:15)**
- Delegates and Alternates may bring up any issue not on the agenda.*
- IV. Executive Committee Actions – January 2, 2020 (7:15-7:20)**
- The actions taken by the Executive Committee on the Commission's behalf are presented for discussion.*
- V. Berkshire County Survey Results (7:20-7:45)**
- In 2015, BRPC conducted an extensive county-wide survey of the attitudes, preferences and needs of young adults. An updated expanded survey was conducted in 2019, in partnership with 1Berkshire and MassHire Berkshire Workforce Board to include all ages to gain greater insight about changing attitudes relative to living and working in the Berkshires. BRPC Program Manager Mark Maloy will present the results of the survey.*

VI. Economy Section of the Massachusetts Rural Plan (7:45-8:10)

At the last Commission meeting an overview of the Rural Policy Plan for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was given. This Plan, prepared by the MA Rural Policy Advisory Commission (RPAC), identifies, highlights and offers policy recommendations related to the unique issues and challenges faced by all rural communities in Massachusetts. It was decided at the last meeting to get a more in-depth review and have greater discussion of individual section of the Plan at subsequent meetings. This meeting will feature the Economy Section of the Plan.

VII. Partnerships for Growth (8:10-8:45)

MGL 6A, Section 16G requires that during the first year of each new gubernatorial administration, the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, in collaboration with an Economic Development Planning Council, develop and implement a written comprehensive economic development policy for the commonwealth and a strategic plan for implementing the policy. The Baker Administration's economic development plan is called Partnerships for Growth Plan: A plan to enable the Commonwealth's regions to build, connect and lead. There will be a brief presentation about the plan and discussion about priorities for the Berkshire Region, considering the Rural Policy Plan and CEDS priorities.

VII. Approval of Community Assessments for FY 2021 (8:45–8:50)

The Finance Committee has proposed a 2.5% increase in community assessments for FY 2021. By law the municipalities must be notified of their assessments no later than February each year so that they may be included in city/town budgets.

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

- A. FY 19 Audit*
- B. January 30, 2020 "Fifth Thursday" dinner*
- C. DLTA applications received*
- D. Topics for the April 30, 2020 "Fifth Thursday" dinner*
- E. Other*

X. 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