

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
October 28, 2013**

The East Goshen Township Comprehensive Plan Task Force held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the East Goshen Township building.

Members in attendance were:

Susan Carty, Task Force Chairman, Planning Commission
Dan Daley, Planning Commission
Erich Meyer, Park & Recreation Commission
Janet Emanuel, Township Supervisor
John Stipe, Commerce Development Commission
Kathryn Yahraes, Historical Commission
Sandra Snyder, Conservancy Board

Consultants present were:

John Theilacker, Project Manager, Brandywine Conservancy
Tony Robalik, Associate Planner, Brandywine Conservancy

Township Staff:

Mark Gordon, Dir. Of Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer

COMMON ACRONYMS:

BC – Brandywine Conservancy

BOS – Board of Supervisors

CCWRA – Chester Co Water Resources Authority

CP – Comprehensive Plan

CPTF – Comprehensive Plan Task Force

CAP – Climate Action Plan

CC – Commerce Commission

DBH – Diameter, Breadth & Height of trees

EV – Exceptional Value

HQ – High Quality

IBA – Important Bird Area

*OSRER – Open Space, Recreation &
Environmental Resources Plan*

PADEP – PA Dept of Environmental Protection

SCA – Sustainable Communities Assessment

SWM – Stormwater Management

TDR – Transferable Development Rights

TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load

TND – Traditional Neighborhood Development

TOD – Transit Oriented Development

VPP – Vision Partnership Program

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Sue Carty called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence to remember our troops.

Approval of Minutes

The Chairman noted that the minutes of September 11, 2013 were approved as corrected.

Meeting Schedule

John reviewed the meeting schedule. Kathryn will not be here in November and asked to have the discussion of historic resources changed. John agreed to change it to February 2014 and energy conservation will be discussed in November 2013.

John mentioned that in January 2014 Steve Kehs will be here to discuss economic development.

He also mentioned that in March 2014 Ann Toole, consultant on the Open Space, Recreation & Environmental Resources Plan update, will be here to lead that discussion.

In May 2014, there will not be a meeting of the Task Force, since he and Tony will be working on the draft of the plan.

Plan Format

John plans to put discussion of the Town Center under Park & Recreation, the bike trail and economic development. The Plan update is being organized so that each of the Township's ABCs is responsible for implementing a chapter's recommendations. Land Use discussion will be of land still available for development and re-development.

He reviewed the structure of each chapter which contains Introduction to the Issue, Validation of the Issue, Vision for the Future, Implementation Strategy and Implementation Steps.

Review of Chapter 4 – Natural Resources

4.1. Ridley and Chester Creeks – The PADEP determined that the water quality of the Ridley Creek is impaired. Several of the Township Staff, Brandywine Conservancy members and some Conservancy Board members will be meeting with the PADEP to discuss the creek's water quality. A TMDL will be assigned to Ridley Creek sometime in the future. The problem is being caused by siltation. The buffer will have to be reinforced with plantings. John mentioned that the Brandywine Conservancy has a tree planting program in place. You just have to provide volunteers to plant the trees.

Tier 1 means it is an immediate priority and the CPTF feels funds are available. John feels the three, Tier 1 items under 4.1.5 Implementation Steps, may be resolved before the Comp Plan update is done.

4.2. Natural Resource Conservation – Tony mentioned there will be a cross reference to the OSRER. He pointed out that in the old CP protection of the serpentine outcroppings was a low priority. It has been raised to a moderate priority in this update. An inventory needs to be done. Also, a definition and inventory has to be done for heritage trees. Sandy explained that a heritage tree can have that designation because of age, size, rareness and/or historic value. Kathryn mentioned that the CCHA had a speaker that talked about heritage trees.

Discussion:

Dan suggested making "developed" read as "develop/redevelop" since there are still some areas that can be developed.

John Stipe suggested mentioning that the Township has a Deer Program to control the deer population. Sandy suggested having a definition table in the plan, although Janet likes that a definition is included in the text so you don't have to look somewhere else.

Mark would like to use "steps" instead of "projects" throughout the text. Kathryn suggested "activities". Sue asked what impact new legislation would have on the CP. John T explained that the Township ordinance would be changed, if needed, but not the CP.

John & Tony will use some graphics from the current plan and will check to be sure the information is accurate and current.

Sandy suggested that new members on the ABCs should have the appropriate chapters from the CP included in their welcome package.

The Conservancy Board should review Chapter 4 (draft) at their next meeting. Sandy asked for geothermal information.

Public Comment - Bill Egan, 1422 Mill Creek Dr., suggested that the idea of education of residents be expanded to include township staff. Dan mentioned that an MS4 (storm water) permit should have work sessions for residents and township staff.

Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be Monday November 25, 2013 at 7:00 pm and energy conservation will be discussed. Dan moved to adjourn the meeting. Sandy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer
Recording Secretary