



Phoenixville Area Regional Planning Commission
 Minutes of Meeting – Meeting 71
 October 29, 2014

Members of the Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee:¹

<u>Municipality / Organization</u>	<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Planning Commission Representative</u>
Charlestown Township	Hugh Willig	Rick Reis
East Pikeland Township	Rusty Strauss	Ed Cooley
Phoenixville Borough	Michael Kuznar	Jonathan Ewald /Jeremy Dalton
Schuylkill Township	Barbara Cohen	Jim Morrisson / Martha Majewski
West Vincent Township	David Brown	Sara Shick
Chester County	Carol Stauffer	
<u>Consultants</u>		
Theurkauf Design & Planning, LLC	Ed Theurkauf / Tracy Lee Tackett	
Smith and Porter, P.C.	Catherine Anne Porter	

¹ Bold names indicate attendees at this meeting



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1.	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p> <p>Meeting 71 of the Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee (PRPC) was called to Order at 7:34 PM by Rusty Strauss, Chair.</p>
4	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</p>
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting 70 were approved.
5	<p>INVOICE APPROVALS</p>
5.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invoice of \$628.95 to Theurkauf Design & Planning, LLC was approved.
6	<p>OLD BUSINESS</p>
6.1	<p><u>Schuylkill Township PFZ Zoning Amendment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Schuylkill Township PFZ zoning amendment will be voted on by their Board of Supervisors in December.
6.2	<p><u>Phoenixville School District Early Learning Center</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jim Morrison noted that the School District has responded to many of the PRPC comments including geothermal climate control, traffic improvements, perimeter buffering, and timing of traffic lights. A neighboring resident commented on the need for turning lanes at Charlestown and Pothouse Roads, which has not as yet been addressed. The PRPC draft consistency review was unanimously approved, as amended to address need to coordinate improvements on additional affected intersections. Motion by Rusty Strauss, second by Barbara Cohen.
7	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>
7.1	<p><u>Posting of PRPC Meeting Minutes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dave Brown noted that West Vincent residents had asked where to view PRPC minutes, since there is no PRPC website. Historically, Phoenixville Borough was determined to be responsible for posting of PRPC minutes on their website. Ed Theurkauf was authorized to approach Jean Krack about posting minutes on Phoenixville’s website.
7.2	<p><u>2015 PRPC Work Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Trail Map. Community outreach to member municipalities. Special topics and guest speakers. Committee members were advised to think about these and additional aspects of the work plan for discussion at the next meeting. It was agreed that the PRPC consultant budget would remain unchanged from 2014.
7.3	<p><u>PRPC Meeting Schedule</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRPC meeting 72 is scheduled for Thursday December 4 at 7:30 PM. The 2015 November-December meeting will be held on Thursday December 10 at 7:30 PM.



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8	MUNICIPAL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS
8.1	<p><u>Barbara Cohen, Schuylkill Township</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently passed legislation will impact municipal uses of open space funds. • The possibility of joint activities with the Federation of Northern Chester County Communities was discussed. • Schuylkill River Heritage Center is producing a historic resources smart phone informational app. Each PRPC member municipality is asked to identify five significant places that could be featured on the app. • A PECO grant was awarded for a feasibility study to connect the Schuylkill River Trail through Schuylkill Township to Phoenixville. The first meeting for the project is scheduled for November 13 at 7:30 PM. • A celebration of 300 years of steel making in Chester County is planned for 2016.
8.2	<p><u>Jim Morrison, Schuylkill Township</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A \$60K grant was awarded for a feasibility study for a sidewalk from Country Club Road to Starr Street along Route 23, with feeder sidewalks to adjacent areas. • Schuylkill Township will be permitting a cell tower at the former municipal building to address gaps in existing wireless coverage. This has been a significant issue affecting school emergency communications.
8.3	<p><u>Hugh Willig, Charlestown Township</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A feasibility study is underway for a rail trail on the Norfolk Southern Devault Line. There was a public meeting on October 20 to discuss progress. • The Charlestown Mill on Charlestown Road will be fitted with moving machinery as an educational exhibit.
8.4	<p><u>Rusty Strauss, East Pikeland Township</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Pikeland is wrapping up its project to update zoning to facilitate economic redevelopment of the Schuylkill Road corridor. • The Township will next turn its attention to the Kimberton Retail zoning district. • East Pikeland has nearly completed construction of its component of the French Creek Trail. Alternatives are being considered to extend the Trail into East Vincent, West Vincent, Schuylkill, and Phoenixville. • PennDOT's repair work on Rapps Dam Covered Bridge is expected to begin in spring 2015.
8.5	<p><u>Dave Brown, West Vincent Township</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Vincent has adopted its Multi-modal Transportation Plan. • Nearly all of the Horse-Shoe Trail within the Township is off road. • French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust is working with landowners in the Township to create additional conservation and trail easements. • A trail from the Township building to Ludwigs Corner is nearly completed.
8.6	<p><u>Jonathan Ewald, Phoenixville Borough</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A DCNR grant was authorized to provide a dedicated pedestrian and bicycle trail across the Route 29 Bridge between Phoenixville and Mont Clare. • A large apartment and retail project on bridge street is under construction. Phase 2 of the project will include a parking garage.
9	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT / Non- Agenda Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was no public comment.



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10	ADJOURNMENT
10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Barbara Cohen and seconded by Dave Brown. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward A. Theurkauf

Edward A. Theurkauf, RLA, ASLA, APA
Theurkauf Design & Planning, LLC