

BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
BERKS COUNTY SERVICES CENTER
633 COURT STREET, 14TH FLOOR.
READING, PA 19601-4309

January 10, 2024

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Jodi L. Gauker called the monthly meeting of the Berks County Planning Commission to order at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, in person at the Berks County Planning Commission's Library Conference Room.

The following members were present:

Jodi L. Gauker, Chairwoman
Christopher J. Spohn, Vice Chair
Miguel A. Herrera
Glenn R. Knoblauch
Thomas C. McKeon, AICP, CEcD
Lee C. Olsen, AIA, NCARB
Sarah Phillips

Also Attending:

David N. Hunter, Sr., AICP, Executive Director
David N. Peris, Assistant County Solicitor
Ashley J. Showers, Assistant Director
Shailyn Hernandez, Administrative Assistant
Beth Burkovich, GIS Analyst
Michael D. Golembiewski, Transportation Modeler
Taylor Lawrence, Planner II
Laura Mursch, Intergovernmental Planner III
Alan D. Piper, Transportation Planner III
Shanice Ellison, Planner I
Matthew McGough, Transportation Planner III
Michelle Franklin, Subdivision Planner III
Devon Hain, Transportation Planner II
Derek Harris, Economic Development Coordinator
Pamela Menet, Director of Community & Economic Development
Jaime Perez, Housing Planner, County Redevelopment Authority

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. BOARD REORGANIZATION

Nominations for Board positions were presented as listed below:

Chairman – Christopher J. Spohn

Vice-Chair – Lisa Weaver-Gonzalez

Secretary – Lee C. Olsen

New Board Member – Sarah Phillips

MOTION: Miguel A. Herrera made a motion to approve the board reorganization as presented. The motion was seconded by Glenn R. Knoblauch.

4. REPORT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

A. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Hunter began his report by welcoming the newly appointed Board Officers and new Board member, Sarah Phillips from Irish Creek Construction. Mr. Hunter also acknowledged former Board Member Jim McCarthy.

Executive Director Hunter asked Sarah Phillips to introduce herself to everyone and for everyone to introduce themselves to Sarah.

Executive Director Hunter ended his report with a request for board members to report monthly how they contribute to the Planning Commission.

B. STAFF REPORTS

a. **Michelle Franklin**

Tiny Pear Apartments – Centre Township

The proposal was submitted as a preliminary plan and the site is located along the west side of Pear Road at the intersection with Tiny Road. The site has 36 existing units already on the property. The site is in a Designated Growth area. The proposal for the 3 story/12-unit apartment building with associated site improvements is consistent with the Berks County Comprehensive Plan 2030 Update. After the addition it will bring the total number of units to 48.

Discussion ensued regarding the plan and the site area.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of December 13, 2023

B. Reports for Approval

- Land Development & Subdivision Activity Report/Summary
- Endorsed Land Development & Subdivision Activity

MOTION: Christopher J. Spohn made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Glenn R. Knoblauch and passed unanimously.

5. STAFF, STAKEHOLDER AND BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS

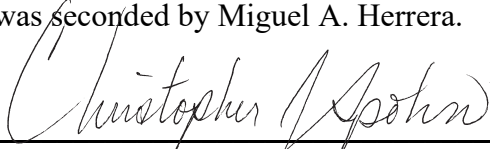
A. **Derek Harris – Placer. AI**

Mr. Harris gave an overview on Placer AI and its features and an example on how to use the software to gather specific data, and trends for Berks County. The software can be used to gather census data, historic data, and ranks of businesses within the State.

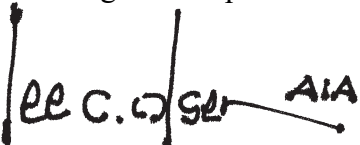
Discussion ensued on the features Placer AI has, how the data is gathered, the cost of the software, and the future of the software with the County.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Thomas C. McKeon. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:56 p.m. The motion was seconded by Miguel A. Herrera.



Christopher J. Spohn, Chairman



Lee C. Olsen, Secretary