

**JOINT STRATEGIC PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2012
7:00-9:00AM
BRICKERVILLE FIRE HALL**

ATTENDEES: Emma Hamme, Gwen Newell, Brittany Smith, Scott Hain, Alex Piehl, Fred Esbenshade, Brian Donmoyer, Jeff Tennis, Logan Myers, Dan Zimmerman, Jon Hohman, Frank Kenavan, James Machado, James Simmermon, Sheri Garman, Susan Tennant, Gaylord Poling, Kelly Withum, Karen Harnly, Eileen Lieberman, Karen Weibel, Curt Evans, Sue Barry, Steve Lee, Arline Shannon, Mike Vigunas, Bob Lamb, Curt Stasheim, William Seace, John Peris, Gregory Bomberger, Skip Garner, Dick Bergy, Wade Hartz, Karen Mailen, Bob Navitski, Jim Wenger, Darryl Miller, Rita Snavelly, Rodney May, Bill Coleman, Tony Robalik, Chris Brown, Rick Jackson

AGENDA

1. **Review of what did not get done during 2006-2011:** Zimmerman reviewed objectives that did not get completed in the last Comprehensive Plan update. The committee was asked to consider if they would like to continue these goals for this update. These included a multi-faceted public relations program, downtown parking, 772 re-routing, continued historic preservation, continued coordination with Red Rose Transit, and the shuttle bus initiative. Over 70% of the original objectives have been already completed, making the plan one of the most successful plans within Pennsylvania.
2. **Elizabeth Township Presentation:** Navitski from the Elizabeth Township Planning Commission gave a brief overview of the main components of the township. The population according to the 2000 census is 3,833. Elizabeth Township has significant preserved land with 38% zoned conservation, 26% agricultural and 24% rural. The township is a rural community that has no real estate tax or public water and sewer.
3. **Census Data Review:** Lancaster County Planning Commission gave an overview of the demographics of each municipality in regards to housing, population and other demographics. PowerPoint is attached. Several important statistics that were shared:
 - 75% of the population spends less than 30 minutes commuting.
 - Non-white population has doubled since the 2000 census.
 - Since 2000, this region's population has grown 28% higher than the state of PA
 - The housing statistics and vacancy rates are evidence that there is room to grow in the region, however the county recommends looking into more affordable housing options
4. **Area Employers Presentation:** Three primary employers in the region, Sechan Electronics, Esbenshades Garden Center and the Heart of Lancaster, presented their employee demographics. The following is a summary of their presentations: Esbenshades has 100 employees, spread between four locations. Employees mostly reside in Elizabeth Township, the rest live within Lancaster or Berks counties. Around 20% of employees are between the ages of 50-60. What attracts their employees to the company is the availability of year-round work and the positive work environment.

Sechan Electronics just recently put in a new addition, after 27 years of business. They currently employ 243 employees. 25% of the employees live within this region, 65% in Lancaster County, and 10% in the surrounding counties. Employees range from ages 18-68, with 40 being the average. The attraction to work at Sechan is the positive work environment and the “family business” atmosphere.

Heart of Lancaster employees over 400 employees, which is a 15% growth increase since their relocation to this region. Over 25% of employees reside in Southern Lancaster County with about 20% of employees residing in this region. The staff is primarily female, college educated and age range is evenly distributed between 20 and 60. Employees are attracted to work at the Heart for the growth opportunities, positive work environment and the pleasant facilities.

ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING: July 19 (Luther Acres)- Residential growth and retirement