

Planners Unite Meeting
Thursday, April 08, 2010
Good Planning leads to strong economics

1. Partner Organizations

- a. Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS), Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB), County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania – County Planners, (C CAP), & Pennsylvania Works!
 - 1. Alex & Shannon to prepare Letters Of Support
 - 2. PSATS sent legislative alert to loss of local gov't support

- Alex has sent out a letter to every legislator asking them to sign on and to restore the LUPTAP funding levels that are being requested
- All County Planning Directors will be receiving a letter also (Alex)
- Denny Puko – CCAP Planning Directors next meet on May 7th and they are interested in having someone speak to them at this meeting about our initiative. The meeting will be at the Toftrees Resort in State College from 10 am until 3 pm.
- Carl Hess – Alex will reach out to Carl to see if he can attend the CCAP Planning Directors meeting and if he can't, Mark Stivers stated that he can attend. Denny will let this group know that someone will attend this meeting.
- Lynn DeLorenzo – Shannon made a contact and NAIOP is willing to sign on in support of our efforts
- Mark Stivers – Lancaster County is interested in supporting Planners Unite
- Alex – follow up with these partner organizations (personal contacts)
- PSATS – Alex to follow up with PSATS.
- Rich Bickel wanted to know if there is a letter of support available to review.

2. Case Studies

- a. Cranberry, Erie, Jefferson Morgan - reviewed and approved
 - No comments

- b. NE PA – Dallas Borough Case Study – draft pending review and approval
 - All participating on the conference call stated that what has been prepared, looks good so far.

- c. SE PA
 - i. Update – example of Cheltenham Ave. BID Study provided –follow up conducted by Joy to Cheltenham Township – Contacted – no response

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- Denny Puko asked Ron Bednar to put something together – no response from Ron as of yet
 - Rich Bickel to follow up with the Asst. Twp Manager – he sent an email to the Township
 - ii. Rich to follow up w/ TRID study
 - Rich Bickel – is working on the Lower Merion Case Study with Angela. Angela said she would help when she returns from vacation in a week.
 - Rich has also sent an email to Marcus Hook Borough in Delaware County for case study requests.
 - d. Lancaster Multi Municipal Comprehensive Plan: **Under development – Mark Stivers**
 - Mark has received very good info from the county – this project was funded through LUPTAP and County funds.
 - There is an educational element that should be promoted.
 - Something should be ready by next meeting. Mark will send draft to Joy and Dennis to be formatted.
 - There were no other examples suggested by the group
 - Rich brought up Montgomery County examples of Multi-municipal plans
3. Historical timeline & current status
- a. Tabled – for latter discussion. How will this be used? Informational or reformatted for circulation?
 - Denny stated that the timeline that he created is the context of the planning program, etc.
 - Denny’s version to be sent out
 - Shannon to revise timeline – initial LUPTAP task timeline – and send it out for review.
 - The group was charged with deciding “How can it best be used?” Finalize this at the next meeting

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4. Conservative Voice

a. Group discussed the need to inform our message from a conservative viewpoint

i. ASSIGNED: Shannon to check with NAIOP – pending

- Shannon met with Lynn DeLorenzo and NAIOP's economic development committee is talking about it at their meeting today. They will decide if this is one of the advocacy issues that they want to take on. Shannon to report back to the group with their decision

ii. Jason to get a contact to Joy (Buncher Group)

- Jason was not on the line

iii. Rich to Angela Murray

- Rich was under the impression that he was only looking for someone to talk about a good project or why the program was needed – not necessarily a “conservative” person
- Alex – followed up on the “this isn't corporate welfare” theme and we are looking for people to speak on how this will help communities. Not a WAM. More than philosophical issues - make a value judgement.
- A suggestion was made to discuss this with a Commissioner from Bryn Mar.
- Commonwealth Foundation – Alex to call and see if they would support the cause.
- Act 44 – trial balloon
- I-80 tolling issue

5. Next Steps

a. Outreach to members – Call to Action

i. Meetings in each section to disseminate case studies request call to action

1. SW Section Meeting – Monday, April 26? Jeff to confirm

- Meeting on April 26th to discuss the LUPTAP issue
- Invitation for this meeting going out on April 9th
- Develop a flyer to pass out to attendees

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2. Request to other sections to hold similar meetings – **Alex to send request to sections?**

- Nothing has been sent out. Alex to follow up.
- Denny – this is a good thing to do and we should do it soon

- ii. Sustainable Pgh to dispense via 3-E link

- Court – nothing has been forwarded to him to be put on the link
- Alex – we need to get something to Court

- iii. 10,000 Friends to dispense via newsletter

- Ed Wilson – can post information on their website if we need to
- Newsletter just went out, another one due out next month

- iv. PA APA Planners Unite Website – to go live next week
http://www.planningpa.org/planners_unite.shtml

- Alex – Sarah working on this matter. Not sure when it will be live. Currently private, not public. Possibly live on Monday, April 12th.

- b. Legislative Outreach
 - i. Rep Freeman letter – all Planners Unite was to forward
 - 1. Alex, Joy, Mark, others?
 - 2. **Alex to forward to PA APA Membership?**
 - 3. Sections to remind members

 - Alex – three reps to sign on in his region, nothing on the senate side
 - Mark – local rep for East Hempfield – has not responded as of yet
 - Denny – Cindy Campbell has stated that 10 or 11 municipalities in the Scranton area are looking for implementation money and are disgruntled because it is not there
 - Also in Easton area – thwarted by lack of LUPTAP funding and want to meet with local legislators to see how they can get funding
 - We need to get more reps / senators to sign on to this letter

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- We need 50 signatures to make the letter matter, presently at 26
- Planning Directors – should they get the sign on letter for the legislators??

- c. Messaging – **ASSIGNED: Shannon**
 - i. Letter to candidates, letter to partners, letter to members, others?
 - ii. Report Out /status
- Nothing to report
- Task timeline to be completed
- Shannon to report back when this gets moving again

6. Next Meeting – April 22 @ 3:00 pm via conference call

- a. Planers Unite – *keep this in mind*
 - i. WORKING TASK FORCE
 - ii. Meeting until WE GET THE JOB DONE!