



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
NEW JERSEY STATE PLANNING COMMISSION
P.O. Box 820
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0820

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor
SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

TAHESHA WAY
Secretary of State

**New Jersey State Planning Commission
Minutes of the Meeting Held on April 15, 2020
Conference Call:
877-336-1829
Access Code: 6211649#**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wright called the April 15, 2020 conference call meeting of the New Jersey State Planning Commission (SPC) to order at 9:33 a.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

It was announced that notice of the date, time and place of the meeting had been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Danielle Esser, Deputy Chief of Staff, NJ Economic Development Authority
Joseph Fiordaliso, President, Board of Public Utilities
Doug Fisher, Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Elizabeth Semple for Catherine McCabe, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
Sean Thompson, Designee for Acting Governor Sheila Oliver, Department of Community Affairs
Andy Swords, Designee for Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner, Department of Transportation
Melanie Willoughby, Designee for Tahesha Way, Secretary of State, Department of State
Edward McKenna, Public Member
Shanel Robinson, Freeholder Director, County Member
Elizabeth Terenik, Public Member
Bruce Harris, Municipal Member
Thomas Wright, Chairman

Others Present

See Attachment A

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Wright asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairman Wright briefly thanked the Office of Planning Advocacy for a great job.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Rendeiro commented that she hopes everyone is safe and well. That the office is working productively and continues to hold prepetition meetings by conference call.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Wright asked Director Rendeiro to present the Resolution

Resolution No. 2020-07 Approval of Notice of Rule Waiver/Modification/Suspension Pursuant to Executive Order No.103 (Murphy) (March 9,2020) Covid-19 State of Emergency

Director Rendeiro proposed the Rule modification as authorized by Governor Murphy's Executive Order 103 declaring a health emergency in the State of New Jersey. The rule modification applies to those communities whose Center designation is expiring on June 30, 2020. The modification was considered due to the fact that the current priority at the state, county and local levels of government is focused on the current health crisis and long use land use planning may rightfully have less of a priority given the lack of resources from a staffing and financial aspect. The 180 day extension was determined to be reasonable because even after the emergency is revoked, focus of governing bodies will be on economic recovery and renewal.

There was one public comment received prior to the meeting from NJ Future regarding a concern that municipalities would use this extension as a means to develop in areas where growth is not appropriate, particularly in CAFRA and other vulnerable and flood prone areas. The suggestion was that this extension only be offered to municipalities currently in the Plan Endorsement process and not offered to those who have not yet committed. Director Rendeiro replied that most CAFRA communities have already committed to the process and staff is currently working with them. Additionally, since it is a rule modification, the modification cannot be selectively changed. Director Rendeiro assured that the Office staff will monitor development in any community that has not yet committed to the Plan Endorsement process and whose Center is expiring on June 30.

Members Comments

Danielle Esser commented that this is a smart move and thanked the Office of Planning Advocacy.

Edward McKenna commented that this is a strong message to send to the communities.

Elizabeth Semple commented that she is aware Director Rendeiro is working on resilience planning.

Andy Swords commented that this is a smart move and very productive.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Walter Lane, Director of Planning from Somerset County, expressed on behalf on the County and

the County Planners Association his support of the extension.

Ms. Britta Wenzel from Save Barnegat Bay commented on her concerns about over development that could affect the Bay. Director Rendeiro commented that Executive Order No.103 referred to the Rule that referenced only those Centers that expire on June 30, 2020. Additionally, one other consideration for the extension is the difficulty that municipalities have during this emergency to provide for robust public comment. This is an important part of the process and it was felt that this extension is appropriate to ensure appropriate public comment.

Mr. Steven Gleeson, Deputy Attorney General, commented that the Executive Order authorized the modification.

Ms. Wenzel expressed concern about extensions are relaxation of Rules, which can lead to poorly planned communities that will put more development in areas that are vulnerable.

Ms. Wenzel thanked the Director and everyone else.

Chair Wright asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-07, Edward McKenna made the motion and it was seconded by Melanie Willoughby. With no further discussion or question, Chair Wright asked for a roll call vote: Ayes: (12) Danielle Esser, Joe Fiordaliso, Secretary Fisher, Andy Swords, Sean Thompson, Elizabeth Semple, Melanie Willoughby, Edward McKenna, Shanel Robinson, Elizabeth Terenik, Bruce Harris, Thomas Wright. Nays: (0). Abstains: (0).

Resolution No. 2020-07 was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Wright asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Edward McKenna and seconded by Melanie Willoughby. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donna Rendeiro, Secretary
State Planning Commission

Dated: June 3, 2020

ATTACHMENT A
NEW JERSEY STATE PLANNING COMMISSION

DATE: APRIL15, 2020 TIME: 9:30 AM

WALTER LANE - SOMERSET COUNTY

BRITTA WENZEL - BARNEGAT BAY

RICK BROWN - DEP

SUSAN WEBER - DOT

GRANT LACTEING - NJ BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

ELIZABETH LIMBRAE - NJEDA

ELIZABETH GEORGE - NJEDA

THOMAS COLLINS - BEDMINSTER