CALL TO ORDER

Chair McKenna called the August 14, 2017 special meeting of the New Jersey State Planning Commission (SPC) to order at 9:06 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
John Eskilson, Public Member (via phone)
Roberta Lang, Designee for Douglas Fisher, Secretary, Department of Agriculture
Dennis Robinson, Designee for Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno, Department of State
Susan Weber, Designee for Richard Hammer, Commissioner, Department of Transportation
Shing-Fu Hsueh, Mayor, West Windsor, Public Member (via phone)
Bob Martin, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
Ray Martinez, Chief Administrator, Motor Vehicle Commission
Charles McKenna, Chief Executive Officer, Schools Development Authority
Sean Thompson, Designee for Charles Richman, Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs
Edward McKenna, Chairman, Public Member (via phone)

Members Not Present
Thomas Michnewicz, Public Member

Others Present
Marty Truscott, T & M Associates

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair McKenna asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair McKenna asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the April 19, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Lang made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Hsueh. With no further discussion or questions, Chair McKenna asked for a roll call vote: Ayes: (10) John Eskilson Roberta Lang, Dennis Robinson, Susan Weber, Shing-Fu Hsueh, Bob Martin, Ray Martinez, Charles McKenna, Sean Thompson, Ed McKenna. Nays: (0). Abstains: (0). The April 19, 2017 minutes were approved.

CHAIR’S COMMENTS

There were no comments from Chair McKenna at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2017-03 Granting the Township of Lakewood a Four-Month Extension of Time to Complete the Requirements of the Conditional Plan Endorsement

Barry Ableman, Planner for the Office for Planning Advocacy reported that before the Commission was a resolution that was a follow-up to the February 2016 conditional Plan Endorsement for Lakewood. He explained that the conditional endorsement in February 2016 provided Lakewood with 18-months to complete all ancillary items in order to move from conditional endorsement to final endorsement. Mr. Ableman noted that in April of this year Lakewood sent a letter requesting a six-month extension. He explained that the office has been in contact with Lakewood and has been having weekly meetings with them to assist in moving them forward. Resolution No. 2017-03 grants Lakewood with four additional months to accomplish the necessary items that would bring them to final plan endorsement. Since the office and DEP have been working with Lakewood on a weekly basis to make sure all items are completed it is the recommendation of OPA to grant Lakewood a four-month extension and not the six-month extension as requested. It is felt that completion of the remaining items could be accomplished within four-months.

Chair McKenna questioned Mr. Ableman if he felt the four-month extension was a realistic timeframe. Mr. Ableman commented that the timeframes were based on dates provided by Lakewood to OPA. He explained that Lakewood was moving along and is expected to provide OPA with items as soon as tomorrow, that would be introduced in Lakewood and to follow the political process; they have to hold certain meetings in order to do things that were just completed. He further explained that one of the main time consuming items of this process was that Lakewood was engaging people at the local level and had a number of master plan subcommittees that were meeting at the local level and their different subcommittees had to meet and present to the planning board; now their planner is taking all those comments and submitting them to the planning board and then to the municipality at the local level. Lastly, he noted that he was confident with the timeframe.

Chair McKenna asked for questions from the Commission. There were no questions at this time.

Commissioner Martin commented that in addition to Mr. Ableman and Director Scharfenberger’s work and the work from OPA, DEP has the assistant commissioner of Land Use, Ginger Kopkash, who is quarterbacking for DEP as well as working day to day with the both the town and their consultants to push Lakewood to completion. In addition, DEP’s Office of Permit Coordination, John Gray, is working with Lakewood at the same time. He noted that there is a very detailed work plan that the town is working from, there are weekly briefings and DEP has seen weekly progress. Commissioner Martin further noted that the town was delivering what they said they would with a lot of cooperation from State government to make that happen. He also noted that Lakewood has a good consultant on board who is delivering the work product. DEP is comfortable with the extension because there is a detailed work plan and DEP and OPA are monitoring progress on a weekly basis. Commissioner Martin stressed that DEP was comfortable right now and that he strongly supports the extension because it was the right answer. Lastly, he noted that keeping Lakewood on a very tight timeframe is
Director Scharfenberger commented that the DEP has done a really thorough job of keeping on top of Lakewood and having them meet certain milestones. He further noted that the Commission should feel comfortable that Lakewood has gotten to this point and feels that four-months is fair for them to move the ball even further.

PUBLIC COMMENT on Resolution No. 2017-03

There were no public comments.

With no further comments or questions from the Commission, Chair McKenna asked for a motion Resolution No 2017-03. Vice-Chair Eskilson made the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Charles McKenna. Ayes: (10) John Eskilson, Roberta Lang, Dennis Robinson, Susan Weber, Shing-Fu Hsueh, Bob Martin, Ray Martinez, Charles McKenna, Sean Thompson, Ed McKenna. Nays: (0). Abstains: (0). Resolution No. 2017-03 was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further comments from the Commission or the public, Chair McKenna asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Commissioner Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Charles McKenna. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Scharfenberger, Ph.D.
Secretary, State Planning Commission

Dated: August 14, 2017