CALL TO ORDER

Chair McKenna called the February 5, 2020 meeting of the New Jersey State Planning Commission (SPC) to order at 9:35 a.m.

INTRODUCTION TO NEW MEMBERS

Bruce Harris, Former Mayor of Chatham
Elizabeth Terenik, Professional Planner
Shanel Robinson, Freeholder Director from Somerset County
Thomas Wright, Regional Plan Association

After the new members were introduced by Director Donna Rendeiro, the Deputy Attorney General Steven Gleeson proceeded with the oath of office.

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
Andy Swords, Designee for Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner, Department of Transportation
Elizabeth Semple, Designee for Catherine McCabe, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
Gina Fischetti, Designee for Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver, Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs
Melanie Willoughby, Designee for Tahesha Way, Secretary of State, Department of State
Edward McKenna, Vice-Chairman, Public Member
Bruce Harris, Municipal Member
Shanel Robinson, Freeholder Director, County Member
Elizabeth Terenik, Public Member
Thomas Wright, Chairman, Public Member
Members Not Present
Danielle Esser, Deputy Chief of Staff, NJ Economic Development Authority
Joe Fiordaleo, President, Board of Public Utilities
Douglas Fisher, Secretary, Department of Agriculture

Others Present
See Attachment A

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHAIR

Chair McKenna expressed his honor to announce the next Chair of the State Planning Commission Mr. Thomas Wright.

Director Rendeiro also introduced Mr. Vinn White, Senior Policy Advisor from the Governor’s Office Mr. White welcomed Mr. Wright as the new Chair of the State Planning Commission and wished the best of luck to all members and staff.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Chair Wright asked for a nomination for Vice-Chair. Melanie Willoughby moved a motion to nominate Mr. Edward McKenna to be Vice-Chair for the State Planning Commission and the motion was seconded by Bruce Harris.

Chair Wright thanked Mr. McKenna for his extraordinary leadership given to the Commission. With no further discussion or questions, Chair Wright asked for a roll call vote: Ayes: (9) Andy Swords, Bruce Harris, Elizabeth Semple, Shanel Robinson, Elizabeth Terenik, Melanie Willoughby, Thomas Wright, Gina Fischetti. Nays: (0). Abstains: (0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Wright asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 5, 2019 meeting. Melanie Willoughby motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Harris. With no further discussion or questions, Chair Wright asked for a roll call vote: Ayes: (8) Andy Swords, Bruce Harris, Elizabeth Semple, Shanel Robinson, Elizabeth Terenik, Melanie Willoughby, Thomas Wright, Ed McKenna. Nays: (0). Abstains: Gina Fischetti (1). The minutes were not approved at this time due to lack of nine affirmative votes.

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS

Chair Wright expressed deep excitement to be part of the State Planning Commission and to be able to work with a terrific staff and hoping to continue to build on the extraordinary legacy. Chair Wright also thanked Mr. White, the Governor and his team for giving him this opportunity.
DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Rendeiro commented that on January 27th, 2020, the Office received a letter from Save Barnegat Bay requesting that an update on the Lacey Township PIA be added to the SPC agenda. They are looking for an update, specifically on the status of their MS4 permit. Based on the PIA, Lacey is not scheduled for review until one year after endorsement which was May, 2019. When that review takes place, a report to the Commission will be given at the next meeting.

Next, Director Rendeiro noted that the office became aware of a letter to the Manchester Town Council from Karen Argenti with comments related to the Municipal Self-Assessment Report public hearing. Although the State Planning Commission was copied on this letter, the Office has not yet received its copy. Since the questions and comments were directed to the Council, the Office has not responded to allow the Manchester Town Council to respond. Since then, the Town Council has decided to postpone the hearing for one month to allow the public more time to review the document.

Director Rendeiro continued with Legislation/Executive Orders of Interest, bills in two areas of interest have been pre-filed in the new legislative session. Neither directly impacts the SPC, but may have an impact on local planning efforts. A-1089, one of three bills regarding dredging, was introduced and referred to the Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee. Two other bills on dredging have not been introduced. A-1993 requires developers to offer electric vehicle charging stations as an option in certain new home construction. Executive Order 100 was issued by the Governor on January 27th. This EO requires DEP to integrate climate change considerations into its regulatory and permitting programs.

The Executive Director informed that she spoke at the NJ APA conference in a session entitled, “What’s Up With the State Plan?” The session was well attended, and in fact, was “standing room only”. There was great feedback and full support from the audience.

A session was approved for NJ Future’s Redevelopment Forum in March. It is anticipated that the format will be a panel/roundtable discussion.

The Executive Director was asked to speak at a graduate level class on Planning and Land Use Administration at Rutgers’s Bloustein School on March 3rd.

Also, staff attended the DEP’s 309 Stakeholder Meeting on January 15, 2020. The meeting presented strategies proposed by DEP for their regular, 5-year update of their Coastal Management Program that must be provided to NOAA. Updates are given to the highest priority items (Wetlands, Coastal Hazards, Public Access, Ocean Resources). While the Office generally agrees with the strategies presented by DEP, we are preparing a response that identifies some areas where we believe additional discussion is warranted.

Director Rendeiro commented on activities with Non-Governmental Planning Partners.

With the recent addition of staff planners, we have begun regular attendance at the MPO meetings and will continue to expand our role to assist in coordination of transportation planning with these partners and with DOT. Staff attended the DVRPC’s Central Jersey Transportation Forum on February 4th.

Director Rendeiro commented that the Office held its second meeting with Sustainable Jersey to better coordinate their requirements with the requirements of Plan Endorsement. A preliminary list of like requirements was identified. Next steps include developing a detailed list of like requirements and analyzing requirements of both organizations to determine if adjustments to those requirements are necessary in order for both Sustainable Jersey and the SPC to accept the same submissions.
Director Rendeiro informed about the expiring Center Redesignation. There are currently 95 municipalities with a total of 99 Centers expiring on June 30, 2020. To date:

- 15 municipalities have decided not to pursue Plan Endorsement
- 17 municipalities are undecided or unknown
- 11 municipalities have said they will pursue verbally
- 2 municipalities have said they will not pursue verbally
- 19 municipalities have said they will pursue formally
- 17 municipalities have submitted prepetition documents
- Sixteen Prepetition meetings have been scheduled through April (Plumsted Township, Seaside Heights, Ocean Township, 12 on the Route 130 corridor in Burlington County, Sparta Township);
- 1 (City of Wildwood) meeting scheduling in process
- Ten Prepetition Meetings have been held (Little Egg Harbor, Galloway Township, Gloucester City, Morristown, Bloomingdale, Flemington, Allentown, Red Bank, Stafford Township and Bernardsville);
- Four municipalities are further along in the process:
  - Advisory Committee formed (Ocean City, Manchester)
  - Municipal Self-Assessment completed (Upper Township)
  - Community Visioning completed (Millstone)

Director Rendeiro commented on other Plan Endorsement Activities. Three biennial reviews are in process (Berkeley, Lakewood, Woolwich).

She commented about the Interagency Coordination. At the request of the Governor’s office, the Office facilitates an interagency workgroup that focuses on planning activities at the local level and the plan endorsement process. All ex-officios on the Commission have representatives at the table in addition to other relevant state agencies or departments. Four quarterly meetings have been scheduled for 2020. Those dates are February 19th, May 13th, August 19th, and December 9th. Recommended process changes and other state planning issues will be discussed with this group prior to bringing recommendations to the Commission.

Director Rendeiro informed that the office will be attending a meeting at DEP on February 25th, along with the Highlands Council, on Executive Order 89. This EO requires the DEP to develop a statewide climate change resiliency plan, but also requires the State Planning Commission to update its rules to require a mandatory local resiliency plan for Plan Endorsement. This meeting will begin discussions regarding coordination of requirements.

Also, a second meeting with the Highlands Council was held to determine the best path toward a coordinated effort for the State Planning Commission and the Highlands Council to recognize each other’s activities. A path was identified that includes an updated MOU (the previous MOU is from 2007), SPC endorsement of the Highlands Regional Master Plan, and a determination of a process toward co-conformance/endorsement. That process will include mapping issues and the Highlands TDR process. The first step is the completion of the updated MOU, a draft of which is expected in February for comment, as we begin to look at the remaining two items.

Director Rendeiro commented that the development of a “leave behind” reference document that identifies state incentives is underway. The idea of the document is to leave it with municipalities at any time during the Plan Endorsement process so that the local elected officials are provided with information on state programs that they may otherwise not be aware of. This document is part of a marketing plan that will highlight the benefit of state planning coordination.

Director Rendeiro commented the process, requirements and benefits of Plan Endorsement. As part of the marketing initiative, the Office is in the process of identifying current programs of our state agency partners that could be beneficial to municipalities that enter the Plan Endorsement process if enhanced for
municipalities that are plan endorsed. This, together with recommendations from state agencies, MPOs, and NGOs, will begin to inform a recommendation for a benefits package.

Also, discussions are underway to determine whether a County/Regional Plan Endorsement process is feasible and warranted. A concept plan has been developed and is being vetted internally and with county and regional entities for feedback. Discussions with the DAG are ongoing to determine how best to approach the concept within the rules context. It is anticipated that a proposal will be presented and discussed at the interagency meeting on February 19th, the County Planners Association on February 21st and with other regional partners for further comment.

Director Rendeiro commented that much discussion has centered around the Plan Endorsement process and what can be done to update the process and requirements and look at the benefits associated with Plan Endorsement. Some changes can be done administratively and some may require rule changes. It is important to note that each of these items are in discussion stage only, are only informational at this point and will be presented to the Commission formally when each is completely vetted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**State Planning Commission Subcommittee Reorganization**

Chair Wright moved that the Subcommittee membership be as follows:

**PIC Membership:** Shanel Robinson, Freeholder Director (Committee Chair), Sheila Oliver, Lt. Governor (DCA), Catherine McCabe, Commissioner (DEP), Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner (DOT), Danielle Esser (EDA).

**Resolution No. 2020-01 Approval of Annual Meeting Schedule of the State Planning Commission for 2020**

Chair Wright asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-01, Vice-Chair McKenna made the motion and it was seconded by Melanie Willoughby. With no further discussions or questions, Chair Wright asked for a roll call vote: Ayes: (9) Ayes: Andy Swords, Bruce Harris, Elizabeth Semple, Shanel Robinson, Elizabeth Terenik, Melanie Willoughby, Thomas Wright, Gina Fischetti, Edward McKenna. Nays: (0). Abstains: (0).

Resolution No. 2020-01 was approved.

**Resolution No. 2020-02 Approval of Annual Meeting Schedule of the State Plan Implementation Committee for 2020**

Chair Wright asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-02, Andy Swords made the motion and it was seconded by Shanel Robinson. With no further discussions or questions, Chair Wright asked for a roll call vote: Ayes: (9) Ayes: Andy Swords, Bruce Harris, Elizabeth Semple, Shanel Robinson, Elizabeth Terenik, Melanie Willoughby, Thomas Wright, Gina Fischetti, Edward McKenna. Nays: (0). Abstains: (0).

Resolution No. 2020-02 was approved.

**Resolution No. 2020-03 Approval of Appreciation to Shing-Fu Hsueh**

Chair Wright asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-03. Vice-Chair McKenna made the motion and it was seconded by Melanie Willoughby. With no further discussions or questions, Chair Wright asked

Resolution No. 2020-03 was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Glen McDonald, Executive Director of Homes for All in Toms River, commented that he was there to speak about the frustration on a project of affordable housing in Ocean County, Mr. McDonald spoke with Director Rendeiro and after today’s meeting he feels very optimistic and he will be looking forward to work with the commission and OPA office.

Director Rendeiro responded that as she mentioned in her report that Berkeley is one of the towns asking for a biennial review and hopping to bring it to the PIC at the end of February and at the end of March to the SPC.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further comments from the Commission or the public, Chair Wright asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Ed McKenna and seconded by Danielle Essr. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Donna Rendeiro, Secretary
State Planning Commission

Dated: March 2, 2020
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