

**BENNER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 10, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER

Regularly scheduled meeting of the Benner Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Rob Fugate at the Benner Township Municipal Building.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Mike Anthony, Jim Swartzell, Genny Robine, Robert Fugate, Bob Morrell, and Tim Robinson. Member absent was Joe Shultz. Also attending was Renee Swancer, Zoning Officer; Edward Galus, Denny Hameister and Dave Breon.

MINUTES

Planning Commission received the meeting minutes of January 27, 2005 for their review and approval. Mr. Swartzell moved the minutes be accepted. Mr. Anthony seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Swartzell: yes Mr. Fugate: yes Mrs. Robine: yes Mr. Morrell -yes
 Mr. Shultz: absent Mr. Anthony: yes Mr. Robinson: yes

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Denny Hameister with Spring Creek Watershed Commission: - Mr. Hameister gave a presentation about the Spring Creek Watershed Commission. The Spring Creek Watershed is comprised of 175 square miles and 14 different municipalities that are partially or wholly within it. Streams of the Spring Creek Watershed include Spring Creek, Big Hollow, Slab Cabin, Cedar Run, Buffalo Run, Thompson Run, Mackey Run and Logan Branch, as well as a number of springs and unnamed tributaries. In the Fall of 1996, the Spring Creek Watershed Commission was created to foster intergovernmental cooperation in order to protect and improve the Spring Creek Watershed. The mission of the Spring Creek Watershed Commission is to:

- ✓ Establish a long-range vision for the watershed that represents a consensus of thoughts and ideals commonly shared by its people.
- ✓ Perform a leadership role in advancing and coordinating projects and programs consistent with that long-range vision.
- ✓ Establish a long-range, comprehensive plan for the watershed and a program of associated projects to protect and enhance the quality of life within the watershed.

The Spring Creek Watershed Commission's work has resulted in a number of successful initiatives including:

- ✓ Stormwater Management Plan for the Spring Creek Watershed,
- ✓ The Initiation of the Nittany and Bald Eagle Valley Greenway/Bikeway Plan.
- ✓ Co-sponsorship of public forums on stormwater, watershed education, land use and other programs.
- ✓ Fostered the I-99 Community Partnership for Sustainable Development
- ✓ Fostered municipal participation for efforts on Overlay District Ordinance Committee
- ✓ Sponsored and supported municipal applications for the "Chesapeake Bay Partner Communities" program.

The Spring Creek Watershed Commission was originally funded and provided staff assistance from the Centre County Commissioners, but this year the Commissioners decided to not fund the Commission. The Watershed Commission then decided to reorganize itself in January, and will now be utilizing the staff from Clearwater Conservancy. Mr. Hameister said the Watershed Commission wants to remain active and continue its efforts started over the past several years.

The Planning Commission thanked Mr. Hameister for coming. The Planning Commission decided to table work on the watershed commission chart.

NEW BUSINESS

DEP Planning Module for Robert Martin/Kathleen Weaver: The Commission reviewed the planning module for the Robert Martin and Kathleen Weaver. A small flow treatment facility is proposed for this property. The existing septic system malfunctioned and a new replacement bed could not be found. The only alternative is the small flow treatment facility. The property is located on Valley View Road. The Commission completed Component 4A, and Mr. Anthony moved to approve the Module. Mr. Morrell seconded the motion.

Vote: Mr. Swartzell: yes	Mr. Fugate: yes	Mrs. Robine: yes	Mr. Morrell -yes
Mr. Shultz: absent	Mr. Anthony: yes	Mr. Robinson: yes	

OLD BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE

ADJOURN

With all business complete, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:
Renee Swancer, Zoning Officer