

**Northampton County Council of Governments  
Meeting Minutes**

**April 25, 2018**

**Department of Human Services Building  
2801 Emrick Blvd., Bethlehem, PA 18020**

**Attendees:**

Lamont McClure	County Executive
Tina Smith	Northampton County DCED
Susan Wandalowski	Northampton County Human Services
Michael Emili	Northampton County Public Works
Taylor Munoz	Office of Senator Scavello
Marcia Hahn	PA State Representative
Joe Emrick	PA State Representative
Fiorella Mirabito	Borough of Bath
Brad Flynn	Borough of Bath
Leroy Brobst	Borough of Northampton
Dan Chiavaroli	Borough of Nazareth
Tom Petrucci	Plainfield Township
Leslie Huhn	Lower Saucon Township
Cathy Hartranft	Borough of Hellertown
Nate Dysard	Borough of Bangor
John Cornell	Forks Township
Alicia Karner	City of Bethlehem
Don Cunningham	LVEDC
Andrew Klein	LVEDC
Becky Bradley	LVPC
Tracy Oscavich	LVPC
Jennifer Massaro	Penn State Extension
Christi Graver	Penn State Extension
Mark Hartney	Northampton County DCED
Karen Collis	Northampton County DCED
Frank Brooks	Northampton County DCED
David Hughes	Northampton County DCED
Sarah Ortiz	Northampton County DCED
Rebecca Sanchez	Northampton County DCED

<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>
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The quarterly meeting of the Council of Governments and Municipalities was opened by Northampton County DCED Director Tina Smith, who welcomed all attendees and opened the floor for introductions.

## **Presenters**

### **Lamont McClure, Northampton County Executive**

Executive McClure opened with remarks on the importance of the Council of Governments as a partnership between the municipalities and the county. He introduced Tina Smith as the recently appointed Director of Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development. Executive McClure spoke of the need for bi-county cooperation between Lehigh and Northampton counties as well as the importance of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). He also highlighted the opportunity for growth in the Slate Belt.

### **Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development**

Dave Hughes spoke of the financing assistance available through the DCED office. Karen Collis informed about the Hotel Tax Grant Program and the Gaming Authority Grant. Sarah Ortiz shared information on CIPP and AHP. Frank Brooks spoke about HUD, CDBG and the Lead Based Paint Program.

### **Don Cunningham, Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation**

Don stressed the importance of providing a positive environment for existing businesses while enticing new businesses to the area. He spoke of the benefits of accepting manufacturing and fulfillment centers to the area to improve economic development through jobs and tax base.

### **Mike Emili, Northampton County Department of Public Works**

Mike shared information on the P3 Bridge project and the bridges currently under reconstruction. He spoke of the county's parks and trail system as well as recreational programs available to county residents. The Minsi Lake Project, The Wildlands Conservancy and the Pre-K Pathfinders program were all highlighted.

### **Sue Wandalowski, Northampton County Human Services**

Sue announced that the human services department and the community and economic development office have been working together on several projects.

### **Dan Chiavaroli, Borough of Nazareth**

Dan informed on the usefulness of a tub grinder for turning yard waste into mulch. He shared his experience in utilizing a tub grinder on loan from another municipality and expressed the desire to begin discussion with other municipalities interested in the joint purchase and use of a tub grinder.

### **Nate Dysard, Borough of Bangor**

Nate expressed that electronics disposal is an important issue for his residents. He conveyed that the current electronics recycling events are not convenient for the residents of Bangor. He shared concerns surrounding the disposal of televisions left alongside roadways and curbside.

### **Christi Graver and Jennifer Massaro, Penn State Extension**

Christi and Jennifer shared information on the educational events, programs and workshops available through the Penn State Extension. They shared the success of the Open Gate Farm Tour and introduced the program Exploring the Small Farm Dream. The dangers of the Spotted

Lantern Fly were presented and attendees were encouraged to forward any calls from concerned homeowners regarding the spotted lantern fly to the Penn State Extension office.

**Becky Bradley, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission**

Becky spoke of the bike and walking trail system in the county and the possibilities of a regional bike share program. Becky shared information on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and how municipalities can benefit from the funds available to improve roads, bridges, pedestrian, and bicycle infrastructure. Becky encouraged attendees to view the 2018 Housing Market Report to access a wide range of housing data for the area with the added feature of an interactive map.

<b>Adjournment</b>
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Tina Smith thanked all participants for coming and the guest speakers for their informative presentations. Tina encouraged members to forward any issues or concerns to her along with topics to be included on the next meeting agenda. Tina reminded everyone that the next meeting of the Northampton County Council of Governments will be held on Wednesday, July 25, 2018, at the Department of Human Services Building from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.