MP3 COG Board
Wednesday, September 23, 2026
6:00 PM
Hybrid
Note unable to connect to the internet during the meeting

Members: – M. Kindlick (Mt. Penn), K. Barnhardt (County), L. Olsen (County), L. Kelleher (Reading), K. Bradley (Alsace Twp), D. Pottiger (Lower Alsace Twp) – in person

Members absent: R. Maurer (Mt Penn), Alsace Twp Elected Official or Rep, J. Baez, Jr. (Reading) and A. Sellers (Lower Alsace Twp)

Others attending – R. Rock, M. Frymoyer, J. King, C. Crupi-Zana, M. Reinert, M. Ray – in person and L. Kissinger – by phone

NOTE: The laptop was unable to login to the City's server; therefore a virtual connection was unavailable.

CALL TO ORDER
Mr. Barnhardt called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. He stated that a quorum is present.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Mr. Barnhardt opened the floor for public comment on agenda matters. No one present indicated their desire to address the board about agenda matters.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
The May meeting minutes were approved by acclimation – there was no July meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT
Mr. Olsen reviewed the report attached to the agenda noting that there is a total of $64,604.44 in Thompkins accounts (checking and 2 CDs) and $16,308 in the Community Foundation account.

The Treasurer's report was approved on a motion from Mr. Pottiger and Ms. Bradley. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Barnhardt reported that Mr. King made a $50 cash contribution to the MP3, which will be deposited by Mr. Olsen.

Mr. Barnhardt invited Pagoda-Skyline to make a brief presentation.

Mr. Reinert began by stating that Pagoda-Skyline and BMR (Blue Mountain Racing) have partnered to ask the City to reconsider the placement of a pavilion on the south side of the Fire Tower property in the grassy area. The request denied three years ago was for a pavilion on the

north side of the Fire Tower. He stated that the group decided to update the MP3 while they work through the Public Works process. He explained the potential uses for the pavilion.

Mr. Ray, from Pagoda-Skyline, distributed the plans and draft MOU that the City requested. He added that the MOU has not yet been provided to Public Works. The cost of the pavilion is estimated at $26,440. He added that the pavilion will not have any utility connections, as only daytime events are planned. However, he noted that there is electricity available in this area of the property so that is an option for the future.

Mr. Ray stated that the cost will be shared between Pagoda-Skyline and BMR with Pagoda-Skyline taking responsibility for maintenance. He added that Public Works denied the pavilion three years ago because the Pagoda-Skyline expected the City to maintain the pavilion.

Mr. Rock described the benefits of the Skyline Dr gates and the new gates to secure the Fire Tower. He stated that there is much less debris, less illegal dumping, etc.

In response to a question, Mr. Pottiger stated that the Tower property is within the Lower Alsace jurisdiction, and their engineer will only require a paper building permit to ensure the quality of the pavilion's construction.

After reviewing the MOU, Mr. Olsen took issue that the MOU does not allow the pavilion to be rented to the general public. Mr. Rock stated those terms were requested by the City. Ms. Kelleher suggested that Mr. Zeiber is probably thinking about the need for special event permits for pavilion rentals and the potential for problems at this area which is difficult for Central Berks and Reading Police to monitor.

Mr. Reinert stated that the Pagoda-Skyline/BMR partnership is seeking partnerships from other agencies to reduce the cost apportioned to the two organizations. In response to a question, Mr. Reinert stated that the organizations do not currently have cash in hand to fund the project. He asked the MP3 to consider contributing.

Mr. Barnhardt stated that as that agenda topic is not on the September agenda, that topic will need to be considered at the December 2nd meeting (scheduled a week late due to the Thanksgiving holiday). Ms. Kelleher agreed, adding that she would prefer not endorsing the plan or agreeing to provide funding until the City approves the project.

MP3 COG REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Review Amendment to MP3 COG Agreement re membership

Mt. Penn and Alsace Twp. agreements have not been submitted. No change.

B. Disc Golf in partnership with Liederkranz

No update. Ms. Kelleher stated that her increased workload has prevented her from working on this project and she requested assistance.

C. Deer Management Report

Mr. Kissinger reported that the archery USDA program started. He stated that the Reading and Central Berks Police have been provided with information and contact info.

Mr. Barnhardt stated that this initiative is a partnership between the County, City and Berks Nature.

Ms. Kelleher agreed adding that the County's program started after their Antietam study was performed by Natural Lands and the City joined after hearing about the County's results at an MP3 meeting. She stated that Natural Land's study of the City's property on Mt. Penn suggests sharpshooting as a next step if the USDA archery does not sufficiently reduce the deer population.

In response to a question about Sunday hunting, Mr. Kissinger stated that the USDA defines the hunting periods.

D. Restart of Events

No update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS – submission in written form only

- Finance & Capital - none
- Promotions & Marketing - none
- Public Safety & Public Services - none
- Environmental & Land Use Committees – none

WRITTEN REPORTS FROM PRESERVE STAKEHOLDERS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Kindlick agreed to host the December 2nd meeting at the Mt. Penn Borough Municipal Building.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:52 pm on motion of Mr. Kindlick and Mr. Pottiger.

Respectfully submitted by Linda A. Kelleher, Secretary

Action Items:

1. Mr. Olsen, Mr. Barnhardt and Ms. Sellers to explore the restart of events.