CALL TO ORDER

Christiana Foglio, Chair at 9:55 a.m., called the January 18, 2006 meeting of the New Jersey State Planning Commission to order at 9:55 a.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Daniel P. Reynolds, Deputy Attorney General 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

Kenneth Albert, Public Member
Liz Semple, Designee for Acting Commissioner Lisa Jackson, Department of Environmental Protection
John Eskilson, Public Member
Roberta Lang, Designee for Secretary Charles Kuperus, Department of Agriculture
Brent Barnes, Designee for Commissioner John Lettiere, Department of Transportation
Marge DellaVecchia, Designee for Acting Commissioner Susan Bass Levin, Department of Community Affairs
Edward McKenna, Jr., Public Member
Thomas Michnewicz, Public Member
Lauren Moore, Manager, Office of Business Advocate & Information, Commerce & Economic Growth Commission
George Pruitt, Public Member
Christiana Foglio, Chair and Public Member

Not Present

Michele Byers, Executive Director, New Jersey Conservation Foundation
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

CHAIR’S COMMENTS, Christiana Foglio, Chair

There were no comments by the Chair at this time.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT, Maura McManimon, Executive Director

Ms. McManimon reported that at the next Plan Implementation Committee, as a result of the last State Planning Commission meeting staff would be presenting preliminary ideas on how the public notification process for Plan Endorsement might be improved. The public will have the opportunity to comment on the preliminary recommendations at the Committee meeting and as the office proceeds with regulatory updates to the Plan Endorsement Rules. One of the clarifications in the rules the office will be looking at the timeline for completeness. She noted that the enhancements to the public notification process would be a short term solution and the long term solution would be to update the Plan Endorsement Rules through the regulatory process. She also noted that New Jersey Future would be giving a presentation on how they feel that the Plan Endorsement process could be enhanced.

She also mentioned that the proposed education rules relating to planning and zoning board members have been published in to the New Jersey Register and the public comment period is open for 60 days.

Committee Reports

Plan Implementation Committee, John Eskilson, Chair

Mr. Eskilson reported that the Commission would be voting on a resolution to endorse the Township of Plainsboro’s petition for initial plan endorsement. He
thanked the township for their work and for coming before the Commission for the endorsement.

Ms. McManimon highlighted some of the Planning and Implementation Agenda changes that were made as a result of the discussions at the Plan Implementation Committee meeting. They included: amending the both the map and the report to reflect some of the critical environmental sites that had been identified on the preliminary plan map; the municipality clarified their population and employment projections; in updating their master plan the township was given 18-24 months to come into compliance with those requests which matches the biannual review; we clarified the support from the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Transportation; it was reflected that Plainsboro had submitted their COAH third round application and it had been deemed complete; and finally, the Plainsboro Preserve would be reflected on the State Plan Map.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Peter Cantu introduced members of the Township: Ron Deet; Mike Wheeler, planning consultant; Earnest Freeman, community development director; Mike Weaver, township committeeman; and Bob Shea, township administrator. He expressed his appreciation to the staff for their efforts in working with Plainsboro to move the process forward. He noted that Plainsboro is very proud of their planning process over the past 25 years and are pleased to be considered for plan endorsement. He feels the township has submitted a very responsible plan for meeting their COAH housing obligation.

There were no comments from the public at this time.

With no further comments from the Commission or public, John Eskilson moved Resolution No. 2006-01 – Endorsement of the Petition for Initial Plan Endorsement Submitted by the Township of Plainsboro and Delineation of Critical Environmental Sites within the Township. The motion was seconded by Ed McKenna. Chair Foglio asked for a role call. Ayes: (10) Kenneth Albert, Liz Semple, John Eskilson, Roberta Lang, Brent Barnes, Marge DellaVecchia, Edward McKenna, Lauren Moore, George Pruitt, Christiana Foglio. Nays: (0). Abstains: (0).

PRESENTATION
Hazard Planning in New Jersey, by Office of Smart Growth

Ms. McManimon commented that the issue of emergency planning has come up a number of times in discussions, particularly with regard to Ocean Township. The presentation will reflect what is out there right now in the field of emergency planning in the State, what are the linkages to the State Planning Commission and, what steps, if any, should the Commission or Office of Smart Growth be taking to help improve the ongoing process. Ms. McManimon introduced Karl Hartkopf, from the Office of Smart Growth who gave a PowerPoint presentation on the “Hazard Planning in New Jersey”. There was a brief question and answer period following the presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no general public comments at this time.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

There were no Commissioner reports given at this time.

Chair Foglio asked for a motion to adjourn, the motion was moved by Marge DellaVecchia and seconded by John Eskilson. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maura K. McManimon
Secretary and Executive Director

Dated: February 1, 2006