MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION UPPER POTTSGROVE TOWNSHIP

The regular meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Planning Commission was held on Monday, August 11, 2014, at the Upper Pottsgrove Administrative Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, with Elwood Taylor, John Bealer and William Hewitt present. Also present were Township Manager Carol Lewis and Recording Secretary Michelle Reddick. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Taylor at 7:01 p.m. There were 4 people in the audience.

<u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u> – A motion by Bealer, seconded by Hewitt, to approve the minutes of June 9, 2014 as written. All aye votes.

ZHB #1-14 TINE E. BODGE – The applicant has requested a variance to allow her to complete construction of a garage with workshop and storage space for her property at 70 Maugers Mill Road. The maximum height allowed is fifteen feet; the structure as built (without a permit) exceeds the allowable height by eleven feet. Mrs. Bodge explained that her son and his family moved in with intentions of buying the house and built the addition above the garage. She further explained that she was not aware her son did not obtain any permits for the additional above the garage until after he moved out. She advised that she has 2 interested buyers, but cannot sell her house until she obtains the variance and a permit and has the work completed. In response to a question from Mr. Taylor, Ms. Bodge provided a sketch for when the garage was constructed. However, it did not show how far from the property lines the garage is. Mr. Taylor suggested she have that information available for the zoning hearing. In response to a question from Mr. Hewitt, Mr. Taylor advised that the addition to the garage will be inspected once a permit is obtained to make sure that it is structurally sound. Ms. Bodge advised that the Township's Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Vogels has already been out to the property to check the addition and noted it is in excellent condition. A motion by Hewitt, seconded by Bealer, to recommend to the Zoning Hearing Board approval of the variance. All ave votes.

Jeff Fennelly, 1931 Irene Court, noted that there were gentlemen out behind his property last week who told him they were investigating for a trail system. Mr. Fennelly questioned whether a trail would be going in behind his property. Mr. Taylor advised that the Township is working on a trail system which would connect Moyer Road to North Charlotte Street, and Township officials were out investigating a practical place to install the trail. Mr. Fennelly expressed concern that the creek behind his property floods extremely high when it rains. Mr. Taylor advised that the project would include building a bridge over the creek. He further advised that the work being done is preliminary, but nothing is finalized yet, and neighbors will be notified as formal planning progresses.

<u>ADJOURNMENT</u> – A motion by Hewitt, seconded by Bealer, to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. All aye votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Reddick Planning & Zoning Administrator