



Upper Delaware Council

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UPPER DELAWARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 3rd, 2019

The Upper Delaware Council held its monthly meeting on Thursday, October 3rd, 2019 at the Council office in Narrowsburg, NY. Chairperson Roeder called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and roll call followed.

In attendance: Town of Delaware- Harold G. Roeder, Jr., Town of Hancock- Fred Peckham, Town of Cohecton- Larry Richardson, Town of Tusten- Susan Sullivan, Town of Deerpark- David Dean, Town of Fremont- Jim Greier, Damascus Township- Jeff Dexter, Berlin Township- Alan Henry, Shohola Township- Aaron Robinson, Delaware River Basin Commission- Stacey Mulholland, National Park Service- Jennifer Claster. Staff in attendance: UDC Executive Director- Laurie Ramie, Resource Specialist- Pete Golod, Secretary- Ashley Hall-Bagdonas. Absent: Westfall Township- Michael Barth, Town of Lumberland- Nadia Rajs, Lackawaxen Township- Doug Case, Town of Highland- Andy Boyar, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania- Tim Dugan, State of New York- Bill Rudge. Guests: Shannon Cilento- Sullivan County Planning, Keith Winslow – National Park Service, Freda Eisenberg- Sullivan County Planning, Dan Paparella- Town of Tusten, Ginny Dudko- Town of Deerpark, Jim Barth, Jane Varcoe, Cheryl Korotky.

Approval of September 5th Meeting Minutes: A motion Robinson seconded by Henry, to approve the September 5th, 2019 meeting minutes was carried.

Public Comment on the Agenda: None.

Presentation by Shannon N. Cilento, Sullivan County Division of Planning & Community Development:

“Keeping Current with the Past: Implementing Preservation into Upper Delaware Communities”: Cilento thanked Ramie for inviting her to speak about tools that can be used in the communities to implement preservation planning. Cilento’s background is in historic preservation and she is personally very passionate about this subject. When Ramie approached Cilento to speak she went back and looked at the River Management Plan (RMP) and there is a lot in there about Cultural Resource Management and preservation. Cilento referenced the RMP reading: “[The management strategy should] foster a widespread preservation ethic in the Upper Delaware Valley.” For her, that’s how she approaches preservation. She thinks a lot of time people approach preservation as people who may feel they must chain themselves to buildings, save every single building that there is, or keep them in a museum state. That’s not what preservation is to Cilento or the broader field. It’s about a community’s historic resources, respecting the community’s history, recognizing your historic landscape, and developing and planning for the future of that landscape. Cilento recognizes there are many different municipalities represented in the room so there are different priorities and different resources. She has organized these from order of least restrictive to most to present all of the options. She’s not encouraging one over the other but rather presenting the Council with options to be able to go back to their Towns and Townships and decide which is best, if any.

Historic Preservation in general is concerned with three primary actions: preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation. Preservation is what a lot of museums or historic sites do to preserve something in the state it’s in currently. Restoration is restoring a building to a previous state. Rehabilitation is probably the most common and the most important in community development and that’s rehabbing a historic building to make it useful for today. A lot of times that comes in the form of adaptive reuse or taking a building and bringing it into something that can be used such as an old fire station into a restaurant. There are examples all across this region. In Cilento’s opinion there are

three major reasons for historic preservation: community character, economics and sustainability. Historic buildings are often anchors or symbols of a community. You see a certain main street or building and it is synonymous with a place, and those are the places they like to visit. As far as economics, heritage tourism is really important. Ed McMahon spoke in Narrowsburg and Hancock on "Preserving Community Character" and this topic was mentioned. The Upper Delaware Corridor has a lot of Heritage Tourism. Heritage tourists spend on average 30% more than the average tourist and stay twice as long. It's important for communities. Regarding sustainability, a lot of times you hear the term "smart growth" in planning circles. That means creating denser communities so you can conserve more open space. Directing that development into downtowns and keeping more open space are often byproducts of preservation. The EPA has said in a publication recently that one-third of waste in landfills today in the U.S. is construction or demolition debris; again, there is some sustainability to preserving buildings. Preservation has existed for a while. The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association preserved George Washington's home and other monuments. On the National level, preservation entered the planning rhetoric and public policy in October 15, 1966 when Lyndon B. Johnson signed the National Historic Preservation Act. This created the State Historic Preservation Offices, which every state has. There are also Tribal State Historical Offices on reservations. It also created the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, which is the national policy group. They advise the President and Congress on public policy related to preservation, tax credits, etc. It also created the Secretary of the Interior Standards which are standards for rehabilitation. They provide guidance on best practices for rehabilitating historic buildings, doing additions, treatment of historic windows, etc. One of the biggest things it did was create the National Register of Historic Places. Cilento said there are many buildings throughout the Delaware Valley that are on the National Register. The National Register is the official listing of the Nation's Historic Resources. It has over 1 million places on the Register. Over 80,000 are individual listings. The rest are in districts. Downtown Callicoon, NY is a National registered district as well as Parsonage Road Historic District in Cochection. In order to be placed on the National Register the building or structure must be 50 years or older. Only in very rare cases is that excused. In Sullivan County there is the Woodstock site which was placed on the Register before 50 years because of its monumental significance. They must maintain integrity in some manner. That means integrity of materials and site. It must meet one of four criteria: it must be associated with a significant event such as the Minisink Battleground in Sullivan County; association with important person or peoples like the Zane Grey House; representative of specific design or construction such as the Roebling Aqueduct; or will yield significant information (an archaeological site) like the D&H Canal. Cilento said her office frequently gets questions about what the National Register means and what it doesn't. The National Register doesn't police paint color; it doesn't do restrictive things. It does protect against Federal or State actions. If you are a private property owner and have a building on the National Register working with your own private funding, you can do whatever you want. There are no restrictions.

There are things you can do in your local communities to protect certain resources, for example, if there was a plan to expand Rt. 97 into a four lane highway, they wouldn't be able to knock down all the buildings in downtown Callicoon because they're on the Register. As a private property owner with a building that's on the National Register, if you are working with your own private funding, you could demolish it or paint it neon orange. Cilento said there are things that you can do in your local communities to protect certain resources beyond those National and State measures. One that Cilento finds important is comprehensive plans. Every Sullivan County municipality has a comprehensive plan. Many of them have historic conservation sections or cultural resource sections. This plan really sets the framework for how we want to develop what's important in your community in a lot of ways. She said in New York, in order to implement any zoning law, if it's not backed up in your comprehensive plan then you don't have a leg to stand on. Cilento said if you're interested in exploring zoning for conservation purposes you really need a preservation section or a plan within your comprehensive plan. The municipality could also adopt a separate preservation plan to the outlines to how you want to treat certain landscapes. Within that you would identify key areas, hamlets, and specific sites of particular interests that are important to the community. You can include a cultural resource survey. You can talk about what you want to see for the future, what you want to see protected, and how you want that done. If it's in your comprehensive plan that can kind of give your planning or zoning board a foundation for identifying something as a special place. Cilento said Overlay Zoning is where you start to put some teeth into your laws regarding preservation. It's a special zoning district that you can apply over a base zone, like hamlet commercial, rural residential, etc. It allows for additional protections and guidance for historic areas that you identified. The Town of Lumberland has a Historic Overlay District. Cilento thinks this is one of the great things about the Upper Delaware corridor; it's this network of all these communities so there's no need to reinvent the wheel per se. If you want to adopt something like this, Lumberland has it, as do other communities so you can take theirs and adapt to your own communities however you see fit. You can start to put design guidelines or

standards within that to talk about how you want the buildings in those historic areas to be developed. For example, if the Town of Tusten wanted a downtown Narrowsburg historic district overlay, then they could address how they don't want vinyl siding, etc. Design guidelines and standards are another really great way to protect your resources. Cilento wanted to make the distinction guidelines are just that, they provide guidance, where as standards are required. They're not necessarily interchangeable. This can be administered by your local planning board or you can set up an Architectural Review Board that's separate. This is something that your community is creating so it can be as flexible or as rigid as you want to or as you see fit. For local preservation ordinances, this is on the more restrictive end of the scale. The NYS State Historic Preservation Office has a great template to work with. Cilento said the ordinance is where you're able to protect your local resources by stopping a demolition of a building, etc. The local preservation ordinance enables a municipality to declare local landmarks and this is where you can really have power in protecting your historic resources. You cannot issue building permits for certain things. It also can establish a local review commission for conservation to go over all landmark nominations and create a process for landmark designation. It also outlines the process for Certificates of Appropriateness or CFAs which is like a building permit. If someone that's in a local landmark building wants to add an addition, they need a permit. They would apply for a CFA with the commission to allow them to make those changes that everyone has deemed appropriate on the committee. The next step with a local ordinance would be the Certified Local Government program. NYS State Historic Preservation Office administers this program and in order to be a CLG you have to have a local ordinance in place and local permission as well as a local preservation plan or something within your comprehensive plan to apply. Once you are designated as a CLG, you have to actively identify, document, to educate the public on your resources, and submit an Annual Report to State Historic Preservation Office. One of the interesting things about a CLG and the reason it is the most restrictive is that owner consent is not allowed. It does take that right away from the private property owner. Cilento said if the railroad wanted to tear down the Callicoon Train Depot the local municipality would be able to stop it whether the Railroad wanted it to or not. In the landmark nominating process, the property owner is allowed to state a case whether the commission agrees with that or not, is up to them. There are benefits to being a Certified Local Government; you get increased technical assistance from the State Historic Preservation Office and individualized trainings from them as well as access to grant funding pots that nobody else is eligible for. Cilento said there are about 80 CLGs in New York state. In Sullivan County the Town of Mamakating just became a CLG. There are communities in Ulster and Greene Counties as well. Preservation commissions aren't just for cities, they're not just for really densely populated places. There are preservation commissions that are focusing on rural historic resources. It depends on the community.

Cilento said everyone in the Upper Delaware corridor is really lucky to have the UDC and the NPS here as resources and she knows Sullivan County Planning provides funding for zoning changes. They could also provide funding through their Plans and Progress Grants Program for cultural resource surveys. They also provide technical assistance. They can provide individual trainings to planning boards and communities. Cilento said if you're thinking of adopting a local ordinance or zoning law or overlay they can provide assistance to navigate that process as well as apply for grants. Cilento said Sullivan County Planning is here to help. She hopes this is the beginning of a conversation that Sullivan County Planning and UDC can have on preservation. She said if anyone is interested to give her office a call or email and talk about the options she mentioned for the UDC Towns.

Henry noted that Cilento had said that she was somewhat familiar with the River Management Plan (RMP) and asked her if there is an emphasis in that document relative to the importance of culture and heritage? Cilento said yes. Ramie asked if Cilento had any tips on the preservation of historic bridges in particular because that's an issue UDC faces frequently with aging bridges. Cilento said she would forward the information of a historic group that focuses on the preservation of historic bridges. Bridges are a major resource, it's extremely expensive. Cilento said she wishes she was a billionaire so she could save all the bridges but thinks there are ways to preserve and to work around it. Sullivan County Planning is working with the Town of Fallsburg in Sullivan County with the Dennison's Ford bridge that goes over the Neversink. Cilento said they're working on preserving it and getting grant funding the new bridge was located close enough where they didn't have to change the roadways too much. It's still a nice historic bridge; they are hoping to make it more of an event venue. Cilento thinks there are ways to preserve bridges and use them in ways that will not have traffic all over them that will obviously wear them down quicker. Robinson asked if there's any appropriateness for cemeteries to be in the preservation program? Cilento said unfortunately, with the National Register, cemeteries are seldom on the National Register unless there are significant people buried there. A lot of times a grave site can't be designated unless it's the only thing left connected to a historic person. So

unless they still have a house standing or some other property standing, you can't put a grave site on the register. She said there are some historic cemeteries on the National Register. There's grant funding available for historic cemeteries, but it's difficult because there are so many cemeteries and so many older cemeteries that are experiencing the same level of decay. Dexter said the Skinner's Falls Bridge may be rehabbed. Claster said they recently had a meeting. There is an engineer on board. They will be designing it this winter and will likely go out to bid in the spring so they will be working on it next summer. Roeder thanked Cilento for her presentation and presented her with an Upper Delaware Council lapel pin.

Committee Reports: Committee reports were provided based on the meeting minutes. They were: Sep 17th Water Use/Resource Management by Dudko, Sep 10th Special Project Review and Sep 24th Project Review by Richardson, and Sep 24th Operations by Roeder.

Status Reports

Delaware River Basin Commission: Mulholland said Steve Tambini had a medical procedure and was unable to make the meeting. Amy Shallcross of the DRBC wishes everybody a happy Water New Year, 10/1 is the Water New Year. Upcoming DRBC public meeting will take place on Wednesday, 11/13 and the next regularly scheduled business meeting will be Wednesday, 12/11. Both the public hearing and business meeting are open to the public and will be held in Washington Crossing Historic Park. In terms of the Hydrologic Report, the basin has received minor amounts of rain this week. The amounts were less than a half an inch in the Upper Basin and close to a quarter of an inch in the remainder of the Basin. The total combined storage for the three New York city reservoirs is 64%; Cannonsville is below 50% of available capacity; Neversink and Pepacton are at 71% available capacity. Everything in accordance with FFMP conservation releases will decrease on 10/1. Ramie asked Mulholland to explain what her position is at DRBC. Mulholland said as Government Affairs Lead, she meets with Legislators in the four states and federal representatives as well and follows particular issues that might be coming up to bring the attention of the legislators or legislation. Robinson asked if the Water New Year is the recording of water data? Mulholland said she will get back to UDC with that information.

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation: Ramie said Rudge provided two press releases. One is on the expansion of the State's Dangerous Animals list and the second is an announcement of the grand opening of the new Upper Esopus Fire Tower at Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center.

PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources: Absent.

National Park Service-Upper Delaware: Claster introduced Keith Winslow, NPS Chief Ranger. He came to the Upper Delaware in early June as an Acting Chief Ranger and subsequently got the position as the permanent, full-time Chief Ranger. Winslow said he's been a Law Enforcement Ranger with the NPS for 19 years. He started out West at Mesa Verde National Park. He has worked at Zion National Park. He was at the Delaware Water Gap for almost the last 10 years and just moved here to Chief Ranger after Larry Neal retired. He's had the opportunity to work all the way across the country and done a lot of stuff in Northern Oregon, Glacier, Saguache, Kings Canyon and Philadelphia. Winslow has had the chance work with presidents, president-elects, the Pope and dignitaries on different events and tactical teams. He's originally from upstate New York, outside of Oneonta. He was out West for about 10 years then moved back close to New York. He wanted to take the opportunity to come today to introduce himself to the UDC. Claster continued that National Public Lands Day was 9/28 at the Zane Grey Museum. Volunteers included representatives of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy, Sierra Club, and Sullivan West High School. They worked with park staff from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to restore the cultural landscape on the Zane Grey property and remove invasive, non-native plant species. Native pollinator plant seeds were spread in areas where Japanese Knotweed was removed. Natural Resource staff demonstrated how to tag a monarch butterfly. The event concluded with bagels and refreshments donated by Camp Umpys Bagels in Honesdale. 2019 represents the 40th year that the National Canoe Safety Patrol (NCSP) has worked with the NPS on the river to promote safety of river recreation. This year the NCSP made 10,460 visitor contacts on the river, 304 rescues, assisted with 189 boat overs and made 16 calls to NPS rangers for assistance. The number of visitor contacts is a 57% increase from 2018. The number of rescues represents a 16% increase from 2018. The majority of visitor contacts and rescues occurred in July. The number of lives saved as a result of dedicated members of the NCSP is incalculable. Claster said NPS is

grateful for the support and assistance for all that this volunteer organization has done over many years. The Administrative Officer position replacing Karen Henry has been announced. It is going to be open from 10/3 to 10/6 on usajobs.gov. The NPS Five-Year Strategic Plan was finalized on 9/30/19. That document is going to help guide internal park operations through 2020-2024. Claster passed around pictures from the progress made at National Public Lands Day. Richardson asked what process was used to remove the invasive species? Claster said she wasn't there but looking at the photos and what the site looked like after she believes they cut them. With repeat cutting Japanese Knotweed can be controlled but it takes a persistent effort. Robinson asked Claster if they keep track of the locations where incidents occur along the river? Winslow said it gets called into their dispatch center, logged into their new database system which is like a CAD system. There's points of contact for the river and that database can be pulled by the NPS or management so can tell where the majority of things happen, deaths, life saves, etc.

UDC Executive Director's Report: Ramie said on 9/27, President Trump signed a Continuing Resolution to keep the Federal Government operating from 10/1 through 11/21, roughly 7 weeks, to provide additional time to pass appropriations bills which are outstanding. In terms of federal funding for UDC we are entitled to access the portion of funding that is covered by a seven-week period. That amounts to 12.41%. NPS is allowing UDC to round it up to 12.5%. That amounts to \$37,500. Ramie said that is sufficient for that period of time since that is about how much we would spend. It means UDC needs to put together the entire application package for federal assistance which includes a budget and narrative explaining each line of the budget, a work plan, and the SF-424 forms and attachments. UDC then submits that to the NPS and they act on it. Mr. Reidy from NPS must approve a modification to the Cooperative Agreement to allow the awarding of those funds. The other option UDC would have is to not do all of that and to wait it out and see if they'll be passing of the entire appropriations bill. Then we would have access to the full amount due for the year. That probability is unlikely though. There could be another Continuing Resolution or a series of them. Ramie said we just don't know. Given that uncertainty, the way to proceed, in her opinion, is to do the package for the seven-week bill. Ramie is working on that now.

The budget is very tight for 2020. UDC started out with putting in everything that we had as known expenses and we have very few discretionary items. We were over \$12,000 in excess of our income to expenditures. Ramie has worked with that somewhat and now it's down to anywhere between \$6,000 and \$8,000 over. Ramie is still working on that and there are some variables of expenses to be settled. UDC just needs to decide what we will spend during those seven weeks. Obviously we apportion salaries, benefits and those sorts of things.

11/1 is the deadline for the Pennsylvania Townships to submit their proposals for the PA grant. They have potentially \$15,000 or so for projects. Ramie developed an application which follows the questions that will be asked when submitting the overall application. She also stressed to any of the townships if they do not want to participate in this program to please let us know that in writing so we can allocate so we can re-allocate the amounts. The council also needs to come up with UDC's project for approximately \$18,000. We have been discussing ideas for that funding that would not be as restrictive as our federal funds are. This is an opportunity where we can be creative and look at what sort of short-term versus long-term needs we have. Ramie asked for all to think about what would be the most optimum use of those funds and will share at the 11/7 meeting progress on that matter.

Ramie also wanted to mention that tonight was the deadline set for the Town of Highland to respond to the report that UDC sent regarding the substantial conformance recommendations for the 2019 zoning law. At about 4:00 p.m. today the office received a reply by email. Ramie passed the response out, saying we didn't have an opportunity to send it out in advance. The UDC letter that was sent to the Town via certified mail did say that it would be UDC's last effort to negotiate before there would be the potential finding of noncompliance that the UDC full council would pass along to the NPS for the final determination. Richardson mentioned earlier that he believes the most prudent way to proceed is to refer this to our Project Review Committee and decide how to go from there. Ramie asked if that's ok with everybody? The committee was in agreement.

Ramie said that the Project Review Guide was discussed earlier and she appreciates everyone that came out for that meeting at 6 o'clock which was productive.

On 9/27 NYS DOT signed off on the proposed signage "Entering the Delaware River Watershed" within NYS boundaries UDC had been working in partnership with many other agencies. They have accepted all 14 locations with a few logistical tweaks. Ramie said that's fantastic news that DOT is onboard. That request came through the

NYS DEC as the agency to submit it. Ramie said now the Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed is moving on to PA to campaign for the same thing. In our Upper Delaware community, there aren't any signs proposed for Wayne or Pike Counties because it's based on Penn DOT traffic counts as well as whether you're on the outer edges of the boundary. Ramie said there's a meeting coming up on 11/19 in Bethlehem. The signs that they have targeted for PA would be on the PA Turnpike, Interstate 78, and Interstate 380.

The contract is coming up for the cleaning services which Ramie has given a heads up to the Operations Committee about the fact that the UDC's current company raised the rates for 2020. She decided to test the market to see if there is a better deal as the 2020 budget is pretty tight. Currently, UDC pays \$95 per visit and the office is cleaned every other week. The rate has been proposed to go up to \$135 per visit (\$270 per month). Ramie reached out to the committee for suggestions and recommendations. Ramie received three potential quotes including our current vendor. Two looked at the site and one PA company opted not to bid. There was a recommendation from Jeff Bank and that company has offered to clean the office for \$160 per month but they will not take away trash or recyclables as the current vendor does. Staff had already looked into that and has somebody that would do that for \$40 a month. For the year, the annual cost with the proposed new vendor would be \$2,400 opposed to \$3,240 for our current vendor. UDC's final cleaning for FY19 was 9/27. Ramie said it's timely to approve a motion. She offered her suggestion to contract with Constable's Custodial Services Inc., of Liberty, NY at \$160 per month for every-other-week visits as per the UDC's specifications dated 9-30-19 and contract with Tom Coacci of Damascus, PA for the pickup and disposal of UDC trash and recyclables at \$40 per month. A motion by Peckham seconded by Henry to hire Constable's Custodial Services Inc. and Tom Coacci was carried.

The October calendar is provided in the meeting packet. Ramie also provided a final report on the River and Shoreline Cleanup Grants Program for 2019. There were three recipients and all projects were completed on time. The report represents what UDC paid out and a historical tally over the years. Also provided is a thank you letter from the Town of Tusten Energy Committee to the UDC for supporting a grant application that they submitted to the DEC to install a community food scrap composter and digester. They won a grant for \$138,100. They had previously offered to do a program at the UDC on the equipment the grant will allow them to purchase.

Old Business

Railroad Emergency Response Guide Meeting: Ramie is happy to announce that Central New York Railroad is committed to helping UDC with the update of the 1997 Emergency Response Guide for the Southern Tier Line which is 123 miles between the Deposit and Port Jervis. UDC offered to hold the meeting and facilitate the communications between the railroad company and emergency management agencies throughout that territory. Ramie contacted people on the federal, state, and county level as well as the UDC partners we operate with generally. There will also be a component of discussing training that's available for first responders. Melanie Boyar, who is the Public Affairs director for Central New York Railroad and sits on the board of New York State Operation Lifesaver, mentioned that they have many interactive training programs she will introduce at the meeting on 10/29 at 4 p.m. The meeting is by invitation only but if you ask Ramie she will invite you. Ramie did get clearance from Central New York Railroad for local media coverage. Ramie said it's not a meeting of the UDC so we can't pay mileage or meeting fees, but if you are interested please let her or Hall-Bagdonas know.

9/16 Sullivan County Democrat article: "Verizon Contracting with County-owned Towers to Improve Cell Service": Ramie said this is good news here that has been a subject of much interest to the UDC. We consider ourselves to be underserved in the river valley. The article states that Verizon is co-locating with emergency response towers in the Towns of Fremont and Delaware (Tennanah Lake area and Callicoon specifically). That happened after the last meeting when UDC discussed writing to Senator Schumer. We have not heard back from him but it's great to see on the county level this is happening. Robinson said it would be strategic if they co-located on the Lumberland tower because of the 13+ miles of no service. Ramie said it was at the initiation of Verizon and she imagines there were demographic studies to choose the areas they wanted. Dexter said AT&T should be close to being done on putting antennas on the Damascus tower. Henry said something is drastically wrong in Berlin Township where cell service is terrible.

Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund 2019 Regional Grants: Ramie said this region has been very successful with this Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund. Ramie put together a summary that was included in the meeting

packets of all that impact to the Upper Delaware area. Claster added them up. The Friends of the Upper Delaware River (FUDR) grants alone were around \$1.5 million.

Other: Henry requests that the projector screen be moved to a more convenient area so no one is inconvenienced when a presentation is being given. Staff will move it before the next meeting.

New Business

Draft Resolution on 2019-09: Approving Technical Assistance Grants for Fiscal Year 2020: Ramie said the Draft Resolution in the meeting packets includes four applications and deleted the Project Review Committee's recommendation for the Berlin Township application based on the NPS guidance. Dexter recommends considering attaching a letter of objection, noting they have approved projects like that in the past numerous times. A motion by Peckham seconded by Richardson to fund the Berlin Township project with UDC funds at \$710 was made. Robinson said it could be part of the PA DCED grant. Henry said he spoke with a Berlin Township Supervisor this week and they weren't aware that it was denied. Ramie said that is because UDC hadn't voted on it yet. Henry said he appreciates Peckham's motion but he wouldn't be opposed to UDC not funding it as monies are tight for 2020. He would like the record to reflect that staff did a lot of research and out of a \$1.4 trillion budget this is \$710. He feels this is Executive Overreach. Robinson said what is so disheartening to him is that Patrick Reidy from the Northeast Region of the NPS is a distant bureaucrat who discounts the judgment of the local council in this structure that was designed to address the needs of Towns and Townships. He doesn't see how Reidy can make that kind of judgement of the value of this kind of grant because he is not part of this decision-making process. Sullivan said this is why we need to work hard to obtain other funding sources. She said whether it comes from UDC funds or PA DCED funding, she feels Berlin's TAG request should be fulfilled. Richardson feels the first avenue should be to get the funding through the PA DCED grant. If that does not work, he feels it should be funded through UDC funds. Richardson said Berlin Township listened to UDC's advice and came back with a revised project. He doesn't feel it's appropriate the TAG was denied. A lot of these projects were funded over the years. A lot of them were written much better than others. Richardson asked the staff to review the language of previous website TAGs that were approved, especially the first page of the application. Henry recommended sending a letter to the Secretary of the Interior regarding Reidy's authority to approve or deny TAGs. Golod said he was going through TAG correspondence between Ramie and Heister about the TAGs that weren't allowable last year. Golod said Superintendent Heister is the one who makes the recommendation to Mr. Reidy and Reidy makes the final determination. Claster said just a clarification, when there was discussion of using Pennsylvania money or UDC's own money to pay for the Berlin Township website TAG, isn't the UDC's money the same money UDC would use for a TAG? Ramie said no, UDC has an Unrestricted Fund. Henry said there's also \$18,000 from the PA DCED fund. Ramie said that's how UDC survives during funding delays. All UDC's funding is monthly reimbursement so we pay it first and wait for it to come back. A motion by Peckham seconded by Richardson to fund the Berlin Township project with PA DCED funds at \$710 carried, if they should so apply. Roeder said he is obligated to sign the Resolution but he will be signing it under protest. He is not protesting anything on the page; he is protesting the fact that there was a grant that UDC approved and was disapproved by the NPS, the Berlin TAG. Roeder said the presentation by Cilento referenced the Zane Grey Visitors Center. Roeder said hypothetically, if that was still owned by individuals that gave it to Lackawaxen Township and Lackawaxen Township came to UDC and asked for a TAG for it UDC could not fund it, not according to the NPS. Roeder said NPS took away projects with Cultural and Historical links from us. This is a step that Roeder does not like and he's very upset about it. He's been here for 22 years and has never seen treatment like this from the NPS. It goes upstairs. This organization was established by the Congress of the United States of America. Greier said he admired the Chairman's courage and agreed with him one hundred percent. A motion by Robinson seconded by Dexter to support Chairman Roeder's signing of Draft Resolution 2019-09 under protest carried. Henry recommends this be sent to Congressman Matt Cartwright; he's on the Appropriations Committee. Richardson said he thinks UDC should go to all the local officials. Robinson said if any organization is based on good relationships between partners it's the UDC because you are dealing with a very unique set of circumstances, regulating zoning on private property; you're dealing with a large governmental agency, there are the state partners, and the Delaware River Basin Commission. When one of the partners begins to renege how do you maintain this partnership? Robinson said since he's come on, UDC has lost a tremendous amount of ground. This whole deal is based on trust. He said last year we tried to recalibrate these issues and it obviously didn't work. Robinson said it may be prophetic, thirty years ago there were people hanging up "NPS Get

Out of Town” signs and the word on the street was “Wait thirty years. NPS gave it to you and it won’t be there 30 years later.” Claster said for the minutes she’d like to share the email from Reidy; what was allowed previously doesn’t determine what is currently allowed. In the past thirty years the regulations have tightened. OIG audits have brought previously unidentified problems to light. The team has become deeper and more experienced which helps them prevent problems instead of reacting to them. Reidy wanted to apologize to the UDC for any confusion or irritation this causes. It is not his intent to upset anyone. It is his intent to prevent problems which would cause OIG investigations and severe repercussions. Paparella asked why is it in the NPS’s best interest to fund Berlin Township’s TAG for a website? Roeder said because websites have been used for zoning, codification, etc. If there is a way the Township can substantially conform and utilize the computer to do that, it helps. This is part of the whole partnership of working together. Robinson said when Towns and Townships feel like there is no benefit of being part of this organization, why bother? They have to feel like it’s a two-way street here and the last few years it’s been less and less beneficial for participation.

Draft Resolution 2019-10: Contract for Records Management Consulting Services: A Motion by Henry seconded by Peckham to adopt Resolution 2019-10 to hire K. Sickler-Murphy of Schenectady, NY for \$26,750 in two phases passed.

Upper Delaware Council Records Storage System Quotes: Ramie said as part of our Records Management Project, she sent an advance summary of quotes for the records storage system. Ramie recommended going with Inner Space Systems from Brewster, NY for the total of \$4,460. This is for the metal shelves that are custom built for the UDC attic. A Motion by Peckham seconded by Henry to approve Inner Space System quote for \$4,460 passed.

Draft Resolution 2020-01: Awarding the Printing of “The Upper Delaware” Newsletter to Courier Printing Corp. for Fiscal Year 2020: A Motion by Henry seconded by Peckham to adopt Resolution 2020-02 passed.

Draft Resolution 2020-02: Adopting a Combating Sexual Harassment Policy: Richardson said there was a question whether board members should be part of the sexual harassment training. Ramie said the draft policy was circulated for review. UDC employees participated in the interactive training on 10/1, discussing viewing videos and the complaint form and posters that were put up in the UDC office. If the resolution is approved, staff will incorporate it into our Employment Practices and Staff Code of Conduct that has been on the books since 2014. Staff has identified the chain of order to receive the complaints which would be the Executive Director, and/or if the person is not comfortable with that the next person would be the chairperson of the full UDC, then it would be the chairperson of the Personnel Subcommittee. Ramie said in terms of the Board’s participation, that was less clear. Our insurer said the board “should” participate. She said we have a strange situation on being a NYS employer but incorporated in PA, which apparently does not have this same law. Ramie thinks it is a good faith effort to share the policy with the committee and present the links to the videos. Staff has all signed a form to acknowledge participation. Ramie didn’t feel she had the authority to mandate that any board members participate. A recommendation was made by Henry to schedule training for a full council meeting. A Motion by Henry seconded by Peckham to adopt Resolution 2020-02 passed.

Other: Richardson said as the treasurer for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Inc. (UDSB), he would like to present the UDC with a check for \$1,200 in appreciation for its services to the fellow non-profit organization.

Public Comment: Jim Barth said as a Berlin Township resident he thanks everyone for the long discussion. Barth’s question is, when money is given by the UDC to the Township is there any follow-up as to what is done in setting up that website? His impression is that Berlin has a very basic, static website and applying for \$710 will make it look more attractive and more informative. Is there any oversight? Ramie said there is a contract with guidelines and it holds the applicant to the original goals of the plan that was approved. UDC also requires a Mid-Term Progress Report to see where they are. Ultimately UDC has final approval if the payment reimbursement occurs. Golod said a 2016 Berlin TAG for the Township website was split up between that and another project. The \$3,000 wasn’t solely for the website. Berlin Township wanted to update the website and produce 30 copies of their signage ordinance at \$710. The Sign Ordinance was recommended for disapproval by the NPS and the Project Review Committee recommended using that funding towards solely updating the website.

Adjournment: A motion by Robinson, seconded by Henry, to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. was carried.

Minutes prepared by Ashley Hall-Bagdonas 10-15-19