

THE FORKS TOWNSHIP ZONING HEARING BOARD
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2007
MINUTES

The Forks Township Hearing Board meeting was held on Monday, April 23, 2007 at the Forks Township Municipal Building, 1606 Sullivan Trail, Easton, Pa. The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by John Pappas and was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

In Attendance:

John Pappas Chairman
Robert H. Egolf, Vice Chairman
Ronald Asteak, Secretary
Lou Moyer
Michael Shay, Board Attorney

Absent:

Pete Rossi

The Chairman requested that the notice be read.

Unfinished Business:

On the application, bearing reference number 2006005, of KMRD, LP to file a substantive challenge of the validity of the Forks Township Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map (Section 200-80 of the Forks Township Code), Applicant is challenging the Ordinance pursuant to provisions of Section 916.1. (A)(1) Of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC), Applicant challenges that several sections of the Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 200 of the Forks Township Code) are arbitrary, unreasonable, exclusionary and unconstitutional. Zoning districts included in the challenge, are farmland protection (FP), employment center 1 (EC-1), and the suburban residential 1 (SR-1).

Attorney Goudsouzian cross-examined Professional Planner Mr. Art Bernard. (Exhibits A60) Corrections to the testimony and (A61) document titled "An Affordable Housing Assessment of the Lehigh Valley In Pennsylvania". (Exhibit T-18) Advertisement for homebuilder Nic Zawarski and Sons development communities was entered into the record.

Mr. Bernard was asked if density is the key to affordable housing or maximizing developer returns. He responded, "the key to having diverse housing opportunities in Forks Township is density". Mr. James Wideman, asked a follow up question about developer financial gains with regard to higher housing densities.

Upon motion and appropriate second, the Board voted unanimously to continue at a later date. The next hearing is scheduled for May 21, 2007.

In that there was no further business, the Hearing was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted.

Ronald Asteak,
Board Secretary