



ORPC Oxford Region Planning Committee

Chair: Albert Jezyk Jr. Vice-Chair: Charles Fleischmann Treasurer: Robert Ketcham

February 2024 Meeting Report Public Kick-off Meeting

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 - 7:00 pm **Venue:** Herr's Visitor's Center

Reported By: Mark Gallant, ORPC Secretary and the CCPC Consultant Team

Attendance: 62 registered through EventCreate, 13 walk-ins, and 8 CCPC staff

ORPC Representatives and Regular Attendees: Albert Jezyk, Jr. – Elk Township; Noël Roy, Joel Brown – Lower Oxford Township; Kathryn Cloyd, Bob Ketcham, Pauline Garcia Allen – Oxford Borough; Charles Fleischmann, Scott Rugen, Blair Fleischmann – Upper Oxford; Bill Winand, David Ross – West Nottingham Township. All six municipalities were represented!

CCPC Consultant Team: Bill Deguffroy, Mark Gallant, Kevin Myers, David Blackburn, Beth Cunliffe, Sally Warren, Elise Davis, and Heather Jacobson.

□ Open House 6:00 – 6:30 and 7:15 – 8:00ish

Registration (Sign-in): We provided a map that participants could mark up to identify where they live. The results, Upper Oxford (4), Lower Oxford (9), Oxford Borough (6), East Nottingham (16), West Nottingham (6), and Elk (6). All municipalities in the Region were represented.

Station 1 – Existing Land Use: Comparing 2012 Existing Land Use Map with the DRAFT 2024 Existing Land Use Map. Several people provided corrections to the map that Kevin Myers recorded for future revision.

Station 2 – Mini-Survey Results: The top three answers based on the number of responses to the question, “name the top three topics/issues that would impact the Region in the next ten years,” were Natural Resource Protection, Preservation of Rural Character, and Traffic Congestion.



Station 1 (to the right) and Station 2 (to the left) and Kevin Myers with the CCPC Consultant Team



Station 3 and Heather Jacobson from the CCPC Consultant Team

Overheard: Many attendees thought the Mini-survey should be re-activated and distributed more effectively.

Station 3 – Flier Photo Contest: We asked the attendees to identify the photo that was used for the background of the meeting flier. The winner received a nice prize package from Herr’s and the Outback Trading Company. Hint: It was Oxford Memorial Park and points west.



Station 4 – Share a Word or Phrase: We asked the attendees to use a word or phrase to describe their community. They shared: Ag, Home, Rural (2), Giving, Awesome, Family, and Hope.

Station 5 – Project Schedule: We provided an overview of the Plan update project schedule so attendees could plan to participate when the topics they prioritize will be discussed during the nearly 3-year work program.



Station 5 and the executive director of OMI (Julia Ehrhardt) and David Blackburn, the Chester County Historic Coordinator

□ **Introduction, Powerpoint Presentation, and Q and A:** The participants moved into the auditorium and Al Jezyck, Jr. officially opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He was very complimentary of the CCPC Team and the work they had done with the ORPC in the past. Al introduced Bill Deguffroy (CCPC Community Planning Division Director) who talked about the Vision Partnership Program and the CCPC’s long standing relationship with the ORPC. Bill introduced Mark who walked the participants through a slide show highlighting the history of planning in the ORPC, explaining purpose of the Comp Plan and describing the process, and prioritization of public outreach. Mark also shared how the public could get involved with the Comp Plan update starting with their “participation in this meeting.”

During the Q and A, Mark was answering a question from a participant regarding the implementation of plan actions from the 2012 Plan and members of the ORPC membership (including David Ross and Pauline Garcia Allen) added their own comments and shared their support for updating the 2012 Plan.

Overheard: It was suggested that the Slide show be made available to members of the public that did not attend the Public Kick-off meeting.

□ **Issues/Concerns/Topics shared by participants or overheard by the consultant team:**

- Jennersville Hospital
- Elk Creek State Park
- Appropriate (size, character, etc.) land development
- Historic preservation – specifically in Oxford

- Traffic noise
- Stormwater management
- Government transparency – or making clearer who people need to talk to.
- Affordable Housing

☐ Meeting Follow-up

- Add new emails (pre-registration and walk-ins) to master contact list.
- Add Project Schedule (developed for Station 5) to the ORPC website.
- Revise 2024 Land Use Map based on public comments (as appropriate).

The ORPC membership will need decide if they want to move forward with the following:

- Update Powerpoint slide show and post on ORPC and municipal websites and distribute to master contact list.
- Re-distribute Mini-survey on ORPC and municipal websites and distribute to master contact list.

☐ Refreshments, Prizes, and Supplies for Future Public Meetings

The Region spent a total of \$215.85 on coffee, refreshments, paper goods, and prizes. Herr's provided the meeting space and chips and pretzels and Outback Trading Company provided four hoodies for prizes.

Leftover supplies include: Napkins, paper plates, coffee cups, lids, stirrers, sweeteners, and 70 small water bottles.

Next ORPC Meeting: March 27, 2024 via Zoom.