



*Borough of Sinking Spring*  
**BOSS FORWARD**  
**REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**  
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**SINKING SPRING**  
**BOSS FORWARD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**BOSS ASSEMBLY**  
**NOVEMBER 21, 2023**

**Call to Order**

The BOSS Assembly was called to order by BOSS Coordinator Sam Loth at 12:05 PM at SSB Hall.

**BOSS BoD Present**

Merlin Weaver (President-Compass Realty-ED)  
Bernie Campbell (Member-Whirley Drinks-ED)  
Lisa Gantner (Treasurer-SSB Recreation-D/SCG)  
Robert Metzger (Member-SSB Econ Dev-ED)  
Brian Hoffa (Member-Council Econ Dev-P)  
Sam Loth (BOSS Coordinator)

***Note: Teams: ED-Economic, D/SCG-Design/Safe-Clean-Green, P-Promotion***

**BOSS BoD Absent**

Jaime Perez (Member-Berks Redevelopment Authority-P)  
Mike Hart (Member-Borough Manager-ED)

**A QUORUM WAS PRESENT**

**Meeting Minutes**

Approval of Minutes tabled to December 19, 2023 BoD Meeting.

**Treasurer's Report**

Approval of Treasurer's Report tabled to December 19, 2023 BoD Meeting.

**BOSS ASSEMBLY**

**ASSEMBLY Present (32 Attendees)**

Chrissy Houlahan – U.S. House of Representatives  
Amy Cozze – Aide U.S. Senator Bob Casey  
Sabrina McLaughlin – Aide U.S. Senator Fetterman  
Judy Schwank – PA State Senator  
Johanny Cepeda-Freytiz – PA House of Assembly  
Donnel Sheppard – Aide U.S. Rep Houlahan

Tom Gombar – Aide PA Senator Schwank  
Spencer Thornburg – Aide PA Senator Schwank  
Chazz Aden – Aide PA Rep Cepeda-Freytiz  
Anne Marie Grill – Aide Berks Commissioner Leinbach  
Barbara Lopez – Aide Berks Commissioner  
Lynne Burns – Aide Berks Commissioner Sihelnik  
David Hunter – ED Berks County Planning Commission  
Laura Mursch – Berks County Planning Commission  
Michael Golembewski – BCPC/RATS Committee  
Chris Trickett – Wilson School District Superintendent  
Stephanie Kocher – Wilson School District Board President  
Tracy Peterson – SS Borough Council Preseident  
Brian Hoffa – SS Borough Council/BOSS Committee  
Lisa Gantner – SS Borough Council/BOSS Committee  
Robert Metzger – SS Borough Council/BOSS Committee  
Merlin Weaver – BOSS Committee President  
Bernie Campbell – BOSS Committee VP  
Chris Kufro – PennDOT District 5 Executive  
Scott Vottero – PennDOT District 5  
Brian Rasiul – PennDOT District 5  
Kerri Cutright – PennDOT District 5  
Lauri Ahlskog – South Central Transit Authority  
Jeff Glisson – South Central Transit Authority  
Keith Boatman – South Central Transit Authority  
Kyle Bailey – PA Downtown Center

### Welcome & Introductions

Sam Loth: Welcomed the attendees and asked for introductions.

### Presentation

A Power Point presentation was made containing 33 slides. The topics covered included:

- 2008 Formation of BOSS 2020 – R&D and Mission to reduce traffic congestion
- Definition & Explanation of Smart Growth
- Definition & Explanation of Complete Streets
- Definition & Explanation of Form-based Code
- 2010 Three Redevelopment Zones established in Phases
- 2010 Official Map & Traffic Circulation Plan
- 2011 Alcon Corporate Grant for New Town Center Plan
- 2012 Berks Smart Growth Alliance – 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Smart Growth Award
- 2023 Joint NTC Proposed Development – SCTA/BOSS/BORO  
Mobility Hub – Inter-modal Parking Garage – Boro Hall/Police/Library/Public Space
- 2010 Borough Redevelopment – Spring Market Center & Village Greens
- 2019 PennDOT's role in the Central Business District Infrastructure Improvement Plan
- 2019 PennDOT's redesign of Phase 4 Intersection & accompanying IN/OUT Driveway
- 2022 BOSS Alternatives to PennDOT Driveway design
- BOSS positioning to be Developer 'Ready'
- Rep Houlahan spoke of the Federal grant support for Community projects
- PA Sen Schwank comments on Berks/BOSS economic development projects
- Rep Cepeda-Freytiz comments on House Assembly support for local community projects
- 2023 BOSS/BORO funding assembled, funding needed for completion & funding desired

Brian Hoffa/Robert Metzger/Merlin Weaver: Spoke to Assembly on needs & wants for completion of the CBD-IIP and Marketing to Developers specializing in downtown redevelopment.

Handout: A BOSS handout included the WANTS/NEEDS/DESIRED slide, a two-page listing of proposed grant applications for 2024-2028 and a three-page history of funding assembled by BOSS to date.

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM**  
**Borough Council Chambers**