

# Warrington



# Township

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April 26, 2018

**RE: PSATS 96<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW**

I attended the 96<sup>th</sup> PSATS Annual Conference from April 22, 2016 to April 25, 2018. Following is a report on seminars that I attended:

**Sunday, April 22, 2018:**

PSATS Grassroots Lobbying Network Reception (4:30 – 5:30 pm)

This was a meet and greet reception that I attended along with Carol Baker.

**Monday, April 23, 2018:**

General Session Opening Ceremony: Call to Order, Speakers, PSATS Excellence Awards Ceremony, from 8:30 am to 10:30 am

Keynote speakers were: Daniel Rodriguez, former NYC police officer and PSATS Executive Director Dave Sanko.

Trends in Land Use and Zoning Regulations - (10:45 am to 11:45 am)

Moderator: Michael G. Crotty, Esquire. The course focused on regional zoning; form based zoning; medical marijuana facilities; tiny homes; recent caselaw and legislation.

**Notes of Interest:**

- Berks County is the forefront for regional zoning ordinances.
- Form based zoning: focuses on visual, physical and functional components of a development rather than the traditional zoning which focuses on allowable uses, setbacks, area and bulk criteria.
- Tiny Homes: the Solicitor opinion was that tiny homes should be considered the same as a mobile home

- Recent Caselaw: Honey Brook Estates, LLC v Board of Supervisors or Honey Brook Twp.: Court finds that the Township acted in bad faith in SALDO review.

Say What? The 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment and Parks, Signs, and Facebook: (1:15 pm to 2:25 pm)

Moderators: Eric Brown and Michael Crotty, Esqs., Siana Bellwoar. The course focuses on First Amendment, Parades, Marches, Rallies and Public Gatherings. The attorney strongly recommended the municipality to enact a *Special Events Ordinance* applicable to all parades, rallies and events. Require a Certificate of Insurance and also a clean-up deposit (if on Township property).

Another topic was the Township Facebook page and the First Amendment. Sited was the following case: Munroe v Central Bucks School District. A teacher was fired after posting complaints about the rudeness and ineptitude of her students.

The Language of Leadership: (2:45 pm to 3:55 pm)

Moderator: Larry Stout, Owner/President, Lead On-Line and Clinton Township Supervisor. Each attendee received Mr. Stouts book Time for a Change. The course focused on running a successful meeting by providing a good agenda, establishing public meeting guidelines, listening to the residents and getting back to them with a response. We talked about the three principles of leadership.

**Tuesday, April 24, 2017:**

General Session (8:30 to 11:30 am)

Keynote Speakers: Senator Pat Browne, Chair, PA Senate Appropriations Committee; PSATS President Shirl Barnhart; Representative Dave Reed, PA House Majority Leader and Kim Bracey, Executive Director, Governor's Center for Local Government Services.

Business session: Treasurer's Report, Standing Committee Reports and Resolutions Voting.

Creating Credibility with Your Community (1:15 pm to 2:15 pm)

Moderator: Jeffrey Shue, Director of Municipal Services, C.S. Davidson, Inc. We discussed resources to reach the residents (i.e., website, newsletter, email blasts, public meetings, email;

TV stations, video supervisors meetings; community events and the notify system for immediate news.)

An Update on the Right-to-Know Law (2:45 pm to 3:55 pm)

Moderator: Joshua Bonn and Craig Staudenmaier, Esquires. Focused on record caseloads on the state level, status of appeals, percentage of requestors, major issues, emails, metadata, deleted records, policies, third party and requests.

**Wednesday, April 25, 2018:**

General Session Closing Ceremony (8:30 am to noon)

Keynote speakers for Opioid Roundtable: Attorney General Josh Shapiro; Dr. Rachel Levine, PA Secretary of Health and Physical General; Fred Harran, Director of Public Safety, Bensalem Township, Bucks Co and Wendy Loranzo, Founder, Elizabeth Loranzo iCare Foundation.

Last keynote speaker: Col. Arthur J. Athens

2019 PSATS conference is scheduled for April 14-17, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J. Livrone  
Executive Assistant to Township Manager/Board Secretary