

Excerpts from the proposed by-laws of the Back Mountain Citizens' Council

Below are excerpts from the by-laws proposed by the Back Mountain Citizens' Council, to be voted on during the meeting Monday, December 4. We publish them so that all members of the community may better understand the purposes and organization of the group.

BACK MOUNTAIN CITIZENS' COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 9, 1988

BYLAWS ARTICLE I General

Section 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be the BACK MOUNTAIN CITIZENS' COUNCIL (BMCC).

Section 2. Purpose

The purpose of the BMCC is:

To work with and support all appropriate public and private sector organizations and individuals concerned with the growth and development of the Back Mountain, in order to maintain an excellent quality of life.
To educate the public, assist local officials, advise on planning and development, disseminate relevant information, promote the most appropriate planning and encourage broad citizen participation in issues concerning the Back Mountain Area of Luzerne County, particularly in the municipalities of Dallas Borough, Dallas Township, Kingston Township, Jackson Township, Franklin Township, Harvey's Lake Borough, Lehman Township and Lake Township.

ARTICLE II

Objectives and Concerns

Section 1. Objectives

The Objectives of the BMCC are:

- To review, evaluate, conclude, and recommend actions designed to promote the most appropriate planning affecting growth and development.
- To help educate citizens and officials on planning and zoning.
- To suggest zoning codes and ordinances which are appropriate to the management and guidance of growth and development.
- To establish and maintain a central databank of up-to-date facts and statistics.
- To assist local governmental officials in improving the area's quality of life and establishing the means by which growth can be balanced with environmental sensitivity.
- To suggest ways in which federal, state, county, and private sector funds and services be obtained to help local governments finance the cost of growth and development.
- To publicize factors important to residents through a public information and education program.
- To organize and carry out an annual conference to discuss progress in addressing the communities' needs.

Section 2. Concerns

The principal concerns of the BMCC include:

- a) Long-term assurance of adequate and clean water;
- b) Environmentally approved and properly managed waste disposal facilities;
- c) Area-wide compliance with proper sanitary waste disposal regulations;
- d) Need for long range area-wide planning, compatible zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, and the enforcement thereof;
- e) Long-term assurance of adequate vehicular traffic and transportation facilities;
- f) Preservation of open space and the establishment and maintenance of adequate recreation areas.
- g) Provision of adequate municipal services.

Section 3. Method of Operation

Until such time as the BMCC may be formally incorporated, it shall operate generally in conformance with the laws of the State of Pennsylvania governing not-for-profit corporations.

ARTICLE III

Members

Section 1. Membership

Any resident of voting age of the Back Mountain region (as defined in Article I, Section 2.) may become a member of BMCC upon signifying his or her desire, in writing on the organization's standard membership application form, and after payment of annual BMCC dues, if and when such dues are assessed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Meetings

An annual meeting of the members will be held in December, and additional member meetings may be held at any time, if called with two weeks notice, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Directors

Section 1. Composition of Board

The Board of Directors shall be composed of no more than fifteen (15) elected members, one-third

of whom shall be elected annually. In addition, chairpersons of standing committees, if not already elected directors, shall be appointed as ex-officio members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Term of Office

Members of the Board shall serve for three-year terms or until their successors are elected and have qualified. It is the intention of this section that no director shall serve more than two (2) consecutive three-year terms. The nominating committee shall have the authority to designate directors to serve a special term of office of one, two, or three years so that the composition of the board has continuity and, after the original organizational year, only one-third of the board need be elected each year.

Section 3. Selection and Election of Directors

The President shall appoint a nominating committee of at least three (3) but not more than five (5) members, one of whom must be an elected director who shall be designated to serve as chairperson.

The nominating committee shall present to the members in writing at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting, a slate of candidates to replace the directors whose terms are expiring. Each candidate must have agreed to accept the responsibilities of a director if elected. At least one director from each of the eight (8) BMCC municipalities must be elected to the board. Members may nominate candidates for director, other than those selected by the nominating committee, providing nominations for one or more directors are made in writing, are accompanied by the signatures of twenty members, and are received by the chairperson of the nominating committee seven (7) days before the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Committees

Section 1. Appointment Authority

Committee members and committee chairpersons shall be appointed by the president with approval of the board in accordance with Article IV, Section 4., and shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

The Standing Committees of BMCC shall be:

- Nominating
- Water
- Solid Waste
- Planning and Zoning
- Transportation
- Open Space and Recreation
- Communications
- Community Education and Social Concerns
- Municipal Services (Fire, Police and Ambulance)

Other standing or ad hoc committees may be appointed by the president with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Each chairperson of a standing committee (other than the chairperson of the nominating committee who shall be selected from among the elected directors) shall be appointed by the president as a director of the BMCC.

Section 2. Duties

Duties and responsibilities of any BMCC committees shall be detailed in work descriptions developed by the executive committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII

Finances

Section 1. Funds

All money paid to BMCC shall be placed in an operating fund maintained as a separate account at a bank designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Budget

A budget of estimated revenue and expenses for the coming year shall be submitted by the secretary/treasurer to the Board of Directors for approval. This budget shall be reviewed quarterly by the secretary/treasurer and the executive committee and any changes thereto shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

ARTICLE IX

Miscellaneous

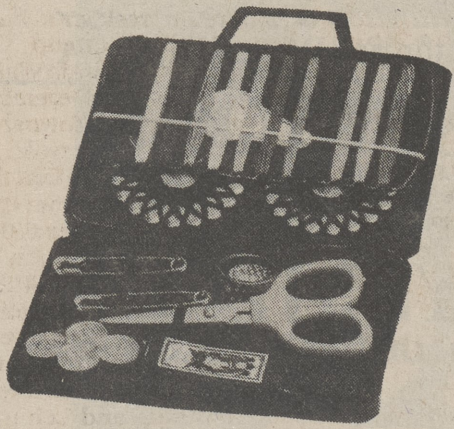
Section 1. Revisions

These bylaws may be altered, amended or added to by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Board in writing, at least ten (10) days before the meeting at which it is to be acted upon.

Section 2. Parliamentary Authority

When not inconsistent with these bylaws, Roberts Rule of Order, (Newly Revised) shall prevail.

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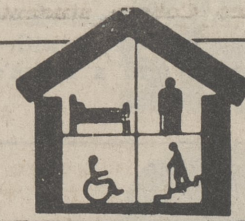
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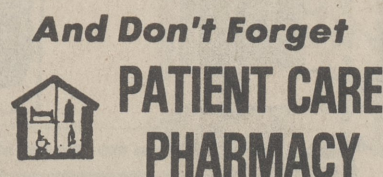
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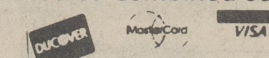
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