

The Southampton Dispatch

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Preserving Our Community's Rural Heritage

Jan./Feb, 2014

CURRENT SITUATION: We're Playing the "Waiting Game" Township Meeting:

Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 8:00 p.m.

NOTE: ALLIED RECYCLING IS NOT ON THE TOWNSHIP AGENDA

January 28 Court Hearing Postponed Due to Missing Documents

Members of the community went to the Mt. Holly Courthouse on January 28, 2014, in order to hear the oral arguments made by the Allied and Southampton Township lawyers.

Unfortunately, the hearing was unable to take place. The reason that the hearing had to be postponed was due to missing documents. The township misplaced the site plans that were filed by Allied Recycling.

The misplacement of the site plan is very concerning. If Allied is asked to supply a new site plan, it gives Allied the opportunity to correct any previous errors on the plan or to change the plan to reflect our concerns. We hope that the missing documents have been located and have been provided to Judge Bookbinder.



Misinformation

Various citizens from the community have contacted paid staff members of Southampton Township for advice on how to proceed and how to assure that concerns are heard. While advice is often provided, there has been a consistent issue with advice and information provided being incorrect.

For example, a member of the community was assured that it was acceptable to contact the Zoning Board's solicitor for information and advice. When contacted, however, the solicitor was frustrated that the member of the community contacted him as there was no way to bill the township for the time and such contact was "inappropriate." Other members of the community wrote to Judge Bookbinder, as advised by a township employee, only to learn that

Judge Bookbinder was unable to read the letters as members of the community are not listed on the complaint; therefore, it is inappropriate for Judge Bookbinder to read the letters.

This misinformation is frustrating and makes one question the reason why this is a consistent issue.

Also, members of the community have attempted to attend various township or zoning board meetings, only to find that the meeting was cancelled. One has to wonder, why is it that such cancellations are not posted on the township website? Wouldn't a website posting assure proper public notice instead of a note on the door or, as has happened, no information posted at all?

If any citizen is concerned by the difficulty currently occurring in receiving correct or up-to-date information, you are encouraged to attend the township meeting on Tuesday evening to voice these concerns.