



Placemaking Part One: Identifying Your Community's Strengths

SPEAKER BIOS

Michael Cheney is the managing director of Groundswell Design Group: a full-service design firm that specializes in placemaking, public space, and hospitality. Groundswell emphasizes creative outreach and makes great efforts to embed itself into the communities for which it designs.

What began as a retail and hospitality space design company has blossomed into one of the top design firms for well-loved urban places in Philadelphia and beyond.

Jeffrey Barg is the associate director for planning and external policy relations at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. At PHS, Jeff develops and maintains the organizational policy agenda and government relations at the federal, state and local level. He also manages projects related to urban greening, creative placemaking, vacant land reclamation, urban agriculture, community and neighborhood gardens, landscape studies and more.

Prior to his work with PHS, Jeff worked with the Penn Institute for Urban Research at the Consortium for Building Energy Innovation located in the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Before that, he had a long career in journalism, serving as the managing editor for Philadelphia Weekly.

Jeff holds a Bachelor of Arts in American History and a Master of City Planning, both from the University of Pennsylvania.

Katrina Johnstone-Zimmerman is an adjunct professor at Drexel University's Westphal College of Media Arts and Design, as well as a project manager for the Lindy Institute for Urban Innovation. Katrina's work focuses on creative placemaking and outreach, with an emphasis on cultural competency and planning with "a mirror to your community." Katrina helps communities uncover and highlight their own authenticity of culture.

Katrina also spent time working with the Project for Public Spaces in New York as their communications and outreach manager, before becoming the founder and director of Think Urban. In addition to her master's degree in Urban Studies, she holds a bachelor's degree in Anthropology, which continues to inform her approach to planning.

Marisa Denker is a founding partner and director of Connect the Dots, civic engagement specialists. As a graduate of the UPenn Urban Studies program, Marisa was selected as a Fulbright Scholar, which allowed her to travel to Ireland to develop a new methodology for engaging stakeholders in placemaking projects; this effort later evolved into her company, Connect the Dots. Connect the Dots works with public sector bodies to support community and stakeholder engagement processes through the design of consultations, focus groups, forums, and large-scale workshops. Their people-first, insight-driven civic engagement process ensures that each engagement is as productive, inclusive, and impactful as possible while also managing risk and expectations.



ATTENDEES

Bethel Township Preservation Society	<i>Beth McCarrick</i>
Brandywine Summit Camp Meeting	<i>RuthAnn Purchase</i>
Chadds Ford Township	<i>Maryann Furlong</i>
Citizen Planners	<i>Cheryl Graff Tumola, Max Cooper,</i>
Concord Township	<i>John Crossan</i>
Delaware County Association of Township Officials	<i>James Kelly</i>
Delaware County Chamber of Commerce	<i>Trish McFarland</i>
Delaware County Planning Department	<i>Beverlee Barnes, Corey Brown, Kate Clifford, Thomas Hastings, Karen Holm, and Sam Haber</i>
Delaware County Transportation Management Association	<i>Cecile Charlton</i>
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission	<i>Derek Lombardi</i>
Edgmont Township	<i>Catherine Ricardo</i>
Glackin Thomas Panzak	<i>Jennie Ryan-Gisewhite</i>
Glenolden Borough	<i>Tom Kiely and Susan Connolly</i>
Haverford Township Partnership for Economic Development	<i>Christine Faris</i>
Haverford Township	<i>Kelly Kirk and Gerard Hart</i>
J.P. Kelly Engineering	<i>James Kelly (DCATO) and Matt Burns</i>
Marcus Hook Borough	<i>Bruce Dorian and Andrew Weldon</i>
Media Historical Society	<i>Fran Sheldon and Emily Zacharyk</i>
Middletown Township	<i>Susan Powell</i>
Millbourne Borough	<i>Nancy Baulis</i>
Montgomery County Planning Commission	<i>Chloe Mohr</i>
Nave Newell	<i>Chelsea Bellay</i>
Newlin Grist Mill	<i>Tony Shahan</i>
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and Local Planning Services	<i>Geoffrey Gray-Cornelius</i>
Newtown Township	<i>Tina Roberts and Linda McIsaac</i>
Prospect Park Borough	<i>Kristine Borchert and Jim Cleaver</i>



Radnor Township	Steve Norcini and Elizabeth Springer
Riverfront Alliance of Delaware County	Lisa Gaffney
Robert W. Scott, PC Law Firm	Robert Scott
Rockdale Art Center	Veronica Battler
Rutledge Borough	Christine Gradel
Springfield Township	Bill Cervino and Sue Warner
Swarthmore Borough	Marty Spiegel, Jane Billings, Lauren McKinney, and Ross Schmucki
Swarthmore Town Center	Anita Barrett, Mary Kadlec, Sharon Mester, and Patrick Francher
Transition Town Media	Ellen Morfei
Upper Chichester Township	Barbara Kelley and Charles Fisher
Upper Darby Township	Thomas Judge
Urban Sports Zone	Paul Kenneth Johnson

Placemaking Series Planning Team (Delaware County Planning Department)

Kiersten Mailler, Becca DeMuth, Julie DelMuto, Amanda Taylor, Rebecca Ross, and Michelle Signora, with support from our Director, Linda Hill

The Delaware County Planning Department would like to thank all of our presenters and attendees for participating in *Placemaking Part One*. Your hard work and dedication serves to make Delaware County a wonderful place to live.

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