

MINUTES  
Cambria County Planning Commission  
May 19, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Cambria County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, May 19, 2022, 12 noon, at Kosta's Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

Chair, Eric Wolf, called the meeting to order.

PRESENT

Eric Wolf  
Diana Waksmunski  
Ron Rovanseck  
Debra Orner  
Melissa Komar  
Lisa Mays  
Russ Kiel (via telephone)

ABSENT

James White  
Danea Koss

STAFF

Christopher Allison  
Colleen A. Bukowski  
Katie Kinka  
Shanna Sosko

GUESTS

John DeBartola

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John DeBartola, 1197 Bedford Street, Johnstown, PA stated that according to Roberts Rules of Order an oral roll call must be taken at public meetings. He presented comments regarding Right-To-Know Requests which he had submitted to the Cambria County Planning Commission regarding e-mails, time sheets for Ethan Imhoff, and health care coverage provided to Mr. Imhoff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At this time, Mr. Wolf called for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Following the Executive Session, Mr. Wolf reconvened the regular CCPC meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Rovanseck, seconded by Ms. Waksmunski, the minutes of the April 17, 2022 meeting were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The May Financial Statement was read by Mr. Allison and reviewed by those present. After review by those present, Mr. Allison requested that an additional invoice to McQuaide Blasko in the amount of \$1,989.00 for legal counsel be approved for payment on May 27, 2022. He noted that the May Financial Statement had been prepared prior to receipt of this invoice. On a motion by Mr. Rovanseck, seconded by Ms. Orner, the May Treasurer's Report,

including expenses listed for payment and the afore-mentioned McQuaide Blasko invoice, was approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Noting a prior commitment, Mr. Wolf appointed Mr. Rovansek to continue as chair for the duration of the meeting. Mr. Wolf also indicated that Election of the Planning Commission Treasurer and Designation of an Acting Responsible Person on the Ameriserv banking accounts will be deferred until the June CCPC meeting.

#### STATUS REPORTS

##### Transportation Planning

Mr. Allison reported that final documentation and minor budget revisions have been completed to facilitate execution of the FY 2022-2024 Unified Planning Work Program. Apprising the members of the status of the 2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) update, Mr. Allison stated that preparation of project listings, air quality conformity documents, and the project selection process have been initiated and will be available for public inspection. The Transportation Planner also noted that he coordinated with PennDOT personnel to reschedule MPO meetings for the remainder of 2022 to avoid conflicts with the County Commissioners' monthly meetings.

Mr. Allison stated that he continues to coordinate the County Bridge inspection and maintenance program, with current emphasis on the Red Mill Bridge replacement project. He noted that the design phase of the new structure is currently underway and discussions continue regarding the historic review process necessitated by removal of the old structure.

Mr. Allison also noted that all CCPC staff members have been involved in gathering information, seeking legal counsel, and providing responses pertaining to several Right-to-Know requests.

##### Community Development

Ms. Sosko provided an update on the proposed Mainline Regional Comprehensive Plan initiative, noting that Gallitzin Borough and Dean Township have recently expressed interest in participating in the plan. In response to several questions, she explained that the plan will focus on contingent municipalities along Route 53, with the "mainline" referring to the rail line which traverses through these municipalities. Ms. Sosko indicated that Commission staff will continue to meet with interested municipal officials to confirm municipal commitments, determine the scope of the plan, and define the project area.

Ms. Waksmunski commended staff for their optimism and promotion of the Mainline Regional Comprehensive Plan concept. She noted that a regional approach would also be beneficial to municipalities in the northern sector of the County.

As a member of the Johnstown Brand Development Team, Ms. Sosko provided a brief synopsis of the team's efforts in changing the tourism brand of Johnstown. She stated that based on team meetings and discussions with a community branding expert and an analysis of a public outreach survey, Johnstown's new brand will tout the outdoor recreation assets of the region as well as the City's industrial heritage and current metal arts focus.

#### Senior Planner

Updating the members on the development of the William Penn Avenue Corridor Plan, Ms. Kinka stated that she has begun analyzing local datasets for the demographics portion of the plan. She also indicated that she has initiated data collection to determine recent patterns in redevelopment activity throughout the corridor.

Ms. Kinka briefly reviewed her involvement with the Recreation Economy Committee stating that discussions have centered on restructuring the committee and developing integrated recreation-based improvement priorities. She explained that incentivized trail clean-up programs that incorporate the restaurant and retail industry within downtown Johnstown and across Cambria County are being considered as well as renewed focus on walking/biking/wheeling infrastructure and amenities.

Ms. Kinka commented on other activities which she has been involved with during the past month, i.e. attendance at municipal meetings to promote participation in the proposed mainline area regional comprehensive planning process, participation on the Johnstown Loan Review Committee, and preparation of letters of support for recreation and redevelopment grant applications being submitted by various municipalities throughout the County. She indicated that she continues to review proposed residential sewage planning modules for planned developments in Cambria County.

At this time, Ms. Mays inquired about the function and responsibilities of municipal planning commissions/committees. Ms. Kinka stated that although several municipalities have active planning and zoning commissions/committees, some municipalities are currently in the process of forming such advisory committees and are interested in learning more about the planning process. She stated that CCPC staff is available to assist local municipalities and, as time permits, staff is planning to develop an informational guide to assist in explaining the process of subdivision and land development submission/review in Cambria County. In response to a question by Ms. Komar, Ms. Kinka further explained that Cambria County does not have a county-wide Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO), however, the planning process for those municipalities which have an adopted SALDO includes review of subdivision and land development submissions at the County level.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Allison stated that job descriptions for staff positions were included in the June meeting packets. He indicated that the current descriptions will be updated in the near future and were provided to the members for informational purposes only.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Noting that the Commission does not typically meet in July, Ms. . Waksmunski suggested that the members consider scheduling a regular meeting in July.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ms. Mays. The motion was seconded by Ms. Waksmunski and passed unanimously.