

MINUTES
Cambria County Planning Commission
January 17, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Cambria County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, January 17, 2013, at 12 noon, at The Cottage Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mr. Kiel.

PRESENT

Russell Kiel
Tim Whited
Toni Renee Anderson
David L. Belz

ABSENT

Sam Valenty
Nicholas Persio
Joseph McAneny
Robert E. Fisher, Jr.
Ronald Rovansek

STAFF

Ethan C. Imhoff
Christopher D. Allison
Shanna M. Murphy

GUESTS

Commissioner Mark Wissinger

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Belz, seconded by Ms. Anderson, the minutes of the December meeting were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was read by Mr. Imhoff and reviewed by those present. On a motion by Mr. Whited, the January Treasurer's Report and the bills listed for payment were approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Belz and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Imhoff stated that there was no significant correspondence to be read at this meeting.

STATUS REPORTS

Executive Director

Mr. Imhoff reported that a memo explaining the Act 247 Fee Schedule recently approved by the Commission had been sent to all 63 municipalities and several local consulting firms. He noted that he had recently attended a meeting of the Allegheny Heartlands Chapter of the Society of Land Surveyors to discuss the review fees as well.

Noting that the County Commissioners adopted the 2013 budget, Mr. Imhoff stated that the CCPC will receive a \$65,000 allocation from the general fund and a \$20,00 allocation from the County's liquid fuels revenues.

Mr. Imhoff stated that he attended the first meeting for the county strategic plan, which is being spearheaded by Commissioner Lengenfelder. He indicated that several dozen county leaders will be participating in the development of the plan, which will focus on economic development efforts in the county.

Mr. Imhoff indicated that he has also been working with the Cambria County Industrial Development Authority and the Commissioners on an application for a Keystone Opportunity Zone in Richland Township, adjacent to the airport. He explained that the KOZ program provides tax waivers and other incentives for businesses locating within the KOZ.

Mr. Imhoff informed those present that he had recently spoken with Tom Simmons of Senator Wozniak's office regarding the closing of SCI Cresson. He offered the CCPC's services for a reuse study of the prison grounds and was informed by Mr. Simmons that some funding may be available for this effort. Mr. Imhoff noted that he had also contacted John Wetzel, PA Department of Corrections Secretary, to offer the CCPC's assistance in developing a reuse plan. A discussion on the closing of SCI Cresson was held among those present.

Transportation

Mr. Allison provided a report on transportation planning activities undertaken during December. He stated that staff continued to work with PennDOT District 9-0 staff on pre-construction activities for the Wildwood Bridge replacement project. Mr. Allison noted that other coordination activities involved the preparation of an agenda and meeting notice for the Johnstown Area Transportation Study meeting scheduled for January 18, 2013.

With regard to the Highway Performance Monitoring Program (HPMS), Mr. Allison reported that sample sections were prepared for field verification. He noted that earlier this month, staff performed field verification on approximately 35 sample sections, including eleven new sample sections for this year.

Mr. Allison stated that work has been continuing on development of the 2013-2014 Unified Planning Work Program. He noted that the work task narratives and budget summary have been completed.

Mr. Allison indicated that staff coordinated with Barclay Electric, Inc. to address ongoing interchange lighting issues. He noted that lights were repaired at the U.S. 22/Gallitzin and U.S. 219/Galleria Drive exits.

In response to a question by Commissioner Wissinger regarding the County bridge inspection program, Mr. Allison explained that the County will be utilizing PennDOT's umbrella agreement for bridge inspections.

Community Development Planning

Ms. Murphy reported that each of the 63 municipalities in the county had been contacted to determine if they had adopted zoning and subdivision ordinances. If so, the municipalities were requested to submit updated copies of these documents to the Planning Commission. Ms. Murphy noted that staff also offered assistance to municipalities interested in adopting subdivision ordinances. In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Wissinger regarding the number of municipalities that currently have zoning ordinances, Ms. Murphy stated that the majority of municipalities in the county have not adopted a zoning ordinance.

Ms. Murphy stated that work has been initiated on the 2013-14 Public Participation Plan. Data regarding language spoken at home and poverty information has been compiled for each municipality in the county and for the 14 neighborhoods within the City of Johnstown

Ms. Murphy noted that staff reviewed an application for surface removal of sandstone on State Gamelands property located in Jackson Township, which had been submitted by Laurel Sand and Stone.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff noted that there was no "Old Business" to discuss at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a general consensus among those present that election of officers be postponed until the February meeting. Staff was requested to prepare a proposed slate of officers for 2013.

After a brief overview of the 2013-2014 Unified Planning Work Program initiatives and funding scenario, Mr. Allison requested the board's approval of the document. He explained that the document will also be reviewed/approved by the JATS committees and subsequently submitted to PennDOT for final approval and execution. Mr. Belz questioned whether PennDOT requires a resolution authorizing the CCPC Executive Director to execute the contract. Mr. Allison stated that if such a resolution is required it would be presented to the board at the February meeting. On a motion by Mr. Belz, seconded by Ms. Anderson, the 2013-14 Unified Planning Work Program was approved. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Whited inquired if CamTran would be subject to the new CCPC fee schedule for the construction of its new facility. Mr. Imhoff responded that CamTran will be subject to the fee and that the maximum fee charged by the CCPC to review a commercial building project is \$700.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Belz, seconded by Mr. Whited. Motion carried.