

MINUTES  
Cambria County Planning Commission

May 18, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Cambria County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, May 18, 2017, at 12 noon, at Kosta's Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

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

PRESENT

Ronald M. Rovansek  
Russell Kiel  
David L. Belz  
James White  
Lonnie Batdorf  
Diane Waksmunski

ABSENT

Toni Renee Anderson  
Rev. Sylvia King  
Eric Wolf

STAFF

Ethan C. Imhoff  
Christopher D. Allison  
Shanna Sosko  
Katie Kinka  
Colleen A. Bukowski  
Jacob Formica, IUP Intern

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Although no public comments were presented at this meeting, Mr. Imhoff took this opportunity to introduce Jake Formica. He explained that Mr. Formica, a rising senior at IUP, will be working with the Commission as a student intern during the summer months. He further noted that Mr. Formica's primary responsibilities will be data collection and organization, GIS, and work on the Cambria County Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Batdorf made a motion that the minutes of the April 20, 2017 CCPC meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kiel and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The May Financial Statement was read by Mr. Imhoff and reviewed by those present. On a motion by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Waksmunski, the May Treasurer's Report, including expenses listed for payment, was approved. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

## STATUS REPORTS

Mr. Rovansek suggested that a brief status report be presented at this meeting and that members review written reports and direct any specific questions to the appropriate staff member.

In keeping with the Chairman's suggestion, Mr. Imhoff commented on two previously discussed issues. He stated that the Planning Commission's involvement with the County Redevelopment Authority has been tabled at this time, noting that the Authority Board is satisfied with the part-time status of its current Executive Director. The second topic reported on was the Regional Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Imhoff stated that discussions to further define plan priorities are continuing. He indicated that this step of plan preparation is very important as it will set the foundation for the continued development of the plan. At this time, Mr. Imhoff invited Ms. Kinka to apprise the members of a presentation/discussion regarding the regional comprehensive plan which had recently taken place at a Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission (SAPDC) meeting.

Ms. Kinka explained that although the discussion at the SAPDC meeting was led by two members of the consulting team, the purpose of the discussion was to encourage committed ownership of the plan by the County Commissioners of the five participating counties and to elicit active participation in developing strategies to implement the goals and objectives of the plan. Ms. Kinka explained that the comprehensive plan is not being developed as a traditional planning document, but rather will present an implementable plan focusing on an innovative approach promoting pro-active rather than reactive planning. Mr. Imhoff stated that demographic data for Cambria County indicates a loss of 9,000 people between 2010 and 2016. He also presented the following statistics regarding the County's current population: Of the County's population of 134,000, 34,000 individuals are over the age of 62; 38,000 individuals are in the 22-45 age category; and annually, the County is experiencing more deaths than births. Mr. Imhoff noted that according to the consultants, planning should focus on what will keep and attract individuals 40 years of age and younger to the area. A brief discussion was held regarding the importance of municipal cooperation and consolidation of services in Cambria County.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ms. Waksmunski, seconded by Mr. White. The motion passed unanimously.