

MINUTES
Cambria County Planning Commission

April 19, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Cambria County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, April 19, 2018, at 12 noon, at Kosta's Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Mr. Wolf.

PRESENT

Eric Wolf
Russell Kiel
David L. Belz
Toni Renee Anderson
Diane Waksmunski

ABSENT

Ronald M. Rovanseck
James White
Rev. Sylvia King
Lonnie Batdorf

STAFF

Ethan C. Imhoff
Shanna Sosko
Katie Kinka
Colleen A. Bukowski

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Kiel, seconded by Mr. Belz, the minutes of the March 15, 2018 CCPC meeting were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The April Financial Statement was read by Mr. Imhoff and reviewed by those present. Noting that PennDOT has assumed a greater role in coordinating maintenance of the County's interchange lighting systems, Mr. Belz inquired whether the additional liquid fuels allocation to the Planning Commission will be expended by year's end. Mr. Imhoff explained that staff involvement with the County bridge program has increased significantly over the past several years and the additional allocation will be used for these coordination and oversight activities. There being no further questions on the report, Mr. Belz made a motion that the April Treasurer's Report, including expenses listed for payment, be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kiel and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

STATUS REPORTS

Mr. Wolf entertained questions on the March staff reports provided to the Commission members prior to the meeting. There being no comments on the reports, Mr. Wolf turned the meeting over to Mr. Imhoff and Ms. Kinka for a report on the regional comprehensive plan.

Mr. Imhoff stated that the *Alleghenies Ahead* regional comprehensive is currently completed in draft form and will be made available to all municipalities and school districts within the County and to planning commissions in adjacent counties. These entities will be afforded a 45-day opportunity to review and comment on the draft document prior to public hearings which will be held in June. Mr. Imhoff stressed that the plan is designed to be an implementable document which presents specific action items that can be initiated to accomplish the priorities set forth in the plan. He stated that the *Alleghenies Ahead* plan has identified critical issues needed to retain, and encourage an influx of, households and businesses in the six-county region.

At this time, Ms. Kinka facilitated a visual presentation and discussion of the plan. The presentation focused on demographic trends, core values, planning principles, and Cambria County priorities and implementation initiatives, as identified in the plan. Action items under critical issues and priorities specific to Cambria County were highlighted and discussed. The implementing lead agencies, available resources, and anticipated implementation time-frame for each action item was also detailed. Mr. Belz suggested that "local bridges" be included in the System Preservation Action Item of the Transportation Priority, i.e. "Projects will address structurally deficient bridges on the state [**and local**] highway system . . ." There was a general consensus among those present that the draft comprehensive plan presents an accurate and honest view of the six-county region and provides an excellent guide for moving forward in Cambria County.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff noted that Pennsylvania received no bids at a recent mini-casino license auction. He noted that a national gaming establishment submitted a bid at a prior auction and is considering development of a mini-casino in Westmoreland County.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Belz. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kiel and passed unanimously.