

MINUTES
Cambria County Planning Commission

August 16, 2018

At 12:05 p.m., the regular monthly meeting of the CCPC was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. Rovansek. The meeting was held at Kosta's Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

PRESENT

Ronald M. Rovansek
Eric Wolf
David L. Belz
Lonnie Batdorf
Toni-Renee Anderson
Diane Waksmunski

ABSENT

Russell Kiel
James White
Rev. Sylvia King

STAFF

Ethan C. Imhoff
Christopher D. Allison
Shanna Murphy Sosko
Katie Kinka

GUESTS

Commissioner Mark Wissinger

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment was offered at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Belz, the minutes of the June 14, 2018 CCPC meeting were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Imhoff presented the July and August Financial Statements. The reports were reviewed by the members and no questions or comments were presented regarding the receipts and expenditures detailed on the statements.

Mr. Imhoff apprised the board of a conference of the National Institute for Transportation and Communities (NITC) in Portland, Oregon taking place in September. The Institute, based at Portland State University, is one of five National Transportation Centers funded by the US Department of Transportation. The Institute focuses research on improved multimodal planning, shared use infrastructure, and the development of data, methods and tools to enhance bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Mr. Imhoff stated he would like to take the staff to this conference to learn more about the Institute's research in order to assist with the development of the Cambria County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. He estimated costs at \$4,000 for all staff to attend.

Mr. Belz made a motion that the July and August Treasurer's Reports, including expenses listed, be approved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Waksmunski and passed unanimously. A separate motion to approve staff travel expenses (airfare, conference registrations and hotel accommodations) to the

NITC conference was made by Eric Wolf. Lonnie Batdorf seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

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

STATUS REPORTS

Executive Director

Mr. Imhoff began by reminding the board of the Alleghenies Ahead/Cambria County Comprehensive Plan adoption in June. He advised that each member of staff will be adopting parts of the plan to carry through towards implementation.

Mr. Imhoff also provided an update on the Johnstown Housing Study, intended to examine housing conditions and promote housing development in downtown Johnstown. In June, DCED committed to funding \$50,000 of the housing study. With \$25,000 committed from the City of Johnstown's Act 47 funding, and another \$10,000 committed from the Cambria County Alliance for Business and Industry, the funding package for the project is complete. Mr. Imhoff stated the project will begin in the fall.

Transportation

Mr. Allison discussed several corridor studies with the board. He advised that PennDOT will hold a public meeting to discuss the Franklin Street corridor project in the City of Johnstown on Tuesday, August 21st at 6:00 p.m. at Bishop McCort High School. All are invited to attend the meeting and provide input on the PennDOT proposals to address traffic congestion near the hospital.

Senior Planner

Ms. Kinka provided an update on the comprehensive plan and several Cambria County projects that were funded through the Southern Alleghenies Mini Grant program. The Cambria County Conservation and Recreation Authority received \$50,000 to construct 2-3 additional miles of trail for the loop extension. Vision 2025 received \$30,000 to conduct a study to construct a park at the foot of the Johnstown Inclined Plane.

Community Development

Ms. Sosko discussed components of the Cambria County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan she has been working on including transit mapping and an inventory of municipalities that have sidewalk ordinances.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff updated the board on the CCPC audit. Matt Zern, auditor from Barnes Saly, audited the CCPC's financial records during August. Mr. Imhoff stated that he anticipates the full audit report will be available to board members by the September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff informed the board that the \$50,000 in DCED funding committed to the Johnstown Housing Study will come in the form of a grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development's Municipal Assistance Program (MAP). Mr. Imhoff stated that in order for the CCPC to apply for the funds, the board needed to pass an authorization resolution. On a motion by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Belz, the board unanimously authorized staff to apply for \$50,000 in MAP funding from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development for the Johnstown Housing Study.

The board members discussed the pros and cons of water fluoridation, in light of the recent decision by the Johnstown Water Authority to remove fluoride from its water supply.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Eric Wolf, seconded by David Belz. The motion carried.

