

MINUTES  
Cambria County Planning Commission

December 20, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the CCPC was held on Thursday, December 20, 2018, at 12 noon, at Kosta's Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

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

PRESENT

Ronald M. Rovansek  
Eric Wolf  
Diane Waksmunski  
Russell Kiel  
David L. Belz  
Lonnie Batdorf

ABSENT

Toni-Renee Anderson  
Rev. Sylvia King  
James White

STAFF

Ethan C. Imhoff  
Christopher D. Allison  
Katie Kinka  
Shanna M. Sosko  
Colleen A. Bukowski

GUESTS

Gerald P. Parisi, Former Staff Member

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Parisi commended the Commission for their efforts in the preparation and adoption of the *Alleghenies Ahead* Comprehensive Plan and extended congratulations to the staff for the comprehensive planning award from the PA Chapter of the American Planning Association.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Wolf made a motion that the minutes of the October 18, 2018 CCPC meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kiel and passed unanimously.

Mr. Imhoff explained that Mr. Wolf suggested that at each forthcoming meeting, Commission members be given the opportunity to share comments/concerns on what is happening in their community or organization. In light of this new agenda item, members provided the following comments:

- The possible construction of wind turbines in the Laurel Ridge area of Upper Yoder Township has sparked initial citizen opposition to the project.
- Several blighted properties in Northern Cambria have either been removed or are scheduled to be removed.
- Water and sewer infrastructure issues are anticipated with the implementation of the Route 219 improvement project.
- The opening of several new businesses in downtown Johnstown is a positive step in the revitalization of the City's downtown area.

- Several accomplishments of Vision 2020 were noted. Staff emphasized that although Vision 2020 efforts focus on the City of Johnstown they also complement the goals of the *Alleghenies Ahead* Comprehensive Plan.
- Mr. Belz noted his intent to step down as a member of the Commission. He asked that he not be reappointed for another four-year term.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Imhoff presented the November-December Financial Statement. The report was reviewed by the members and no questions or comments were presented. Mr. Belz made a motion that the Treasurer's Report, including expenses listed for payment, be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Batdorf and passed unanimously.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Imhoff stated that Rev. King has expressed concern about her attendance at the 2019 Commission meetings. She indicated that her work schedule may limit the number of meetings she can attend. All those present felt that Rev. King is an asset to the Commission and suggested she attend as many meetings as her schedule allows. It was also noted that there are no stipulations in the Commission By-laws concerning meeting attendance.

At this time, Mr. Rovanseck suggested that an informational brochure entitled, "The Cambria County Planning Commission - Who We Are and What We Do," be updated and distributed to all Commission members.

#### STATUS REPORTS

Mr. Imhoff stated that in lieu of monthly staff reports, Ms. Kinka will present a powerpoint of the first draft of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan after the "New Business" agenda items.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff presented the draft 2019 budget, noting that copies had been provided to the members prior to this meeting. Mr. Imhoff stated that receipts and expenditures were comparable to 2018, with the exception of a 2% increase in health care costs and a 3% cost-of-living salary adjustment for Commission employees. He also indicated that the increase in health care costs will be somewhat offset by a cost decrease in May when insurance for Teresa Beigay changes to HMO coverage. In response to a question from Mr. Batdorf concerning funding for staff training, Mr. Imhoff stated that \$9,500 has been budgeted for this line item in the proposed 2019 budget. There being no further questions or comments on the proposed budget, Mr. Wolf made a motion that the 2019 budget, as presented, be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Belz and passed unanimously.

Mr. Imhoff requested approval of a consultant contract with H.F. Lenz for a Level of Service Map for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Noting that the members had all received a copy of the contract prior to this meeting, Mr. Imhoff explained that funding for the contract is available through the Commission Unified Planning Work Program. He stated that the contract specifies that H.F. Lenz Company will provide professional GIS consulting services to the Commission and will develop a county-wide GIS

level of service map for cyclists for a fee of \$6,200. On a motion by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Kiel, the contract between the Commission and H.F. Lenz was approved. The motion passed unanimously.

At this time, Ms. Kinka presented a rough draft of the Cambria County Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. In addition to a printed copy of the document which was distributed for perusal by those present, Ms. Kinka shared a powerpoint detailing the major components of the plan. Both Ms. Kinka and Mr. Imhoff encouraged the members to review the plan prior to the January meeting to facilitate the adoption of the document. Mr. Imhoff stated that prior to the January CCPC meeting, a public hearing will be held to accept public comments on the plan.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Commission members and staff expressed sincere thanks to Mr. Belz for his service as a Commission member and wished him well in his future endeavors.

On a motion by Mr. Belz, seconded by Mr. Wolf, the meeting was adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.