

MINUTES
Cambria County Planning Commission
September 19, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the CCPC was held on Thursday, September 19, 2019, 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
Lonnie Batdorf
Diane Waksmunski
Russell Kiel
Debra Orner

ABSENT

Rev. Sylvia King
Toni-Renee Anderson
James White

STAFF

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

GUESTS

Commissioner Thomas Chernisky

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was offered at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Kiel, the minutes of the June 20, 2019 CCPC meeting and the minutes of the workshop session held on August 15, 2019 were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The July-September Financial Statement was read by Mr. Imhoff and reviewed by the members present. There were no questions or comments on the report. Ms. Waksmunski made a motion that the Treasurer's Report, including expenses listed for payment, be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kiel and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Noting an upcoming event commemorating the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Ghost Town Trail, Mr. Imhoff presented an invitation to the celebration which provided pertinent details of the event.

STATUS REPORTS

Executive Director

Mr. Imhoff briefly highlighted the following initiatives:

- 219N Reconstruction Project: Initial phases underway in Carrolltown

- HAIDA Industrial Park Access Road (internal park roadway to open access to additional acreage within the park): additional soils testing necessary before project can proceed
- Mt. Aloysius/Cresson Township Sidewalk Project: construction has been initiated
- Veterans Park to Allegheny Portage Railroad Trail Project: Cresson Township will assume labor costs for trail development; grant applications to UPMC and the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies have been submitted to assist with project material costs

Mr. Allison stated that Commission staff has been coordinating with the County Commissioners in the process of selecting a county bridge engineer. Noting that Mr. Batdorf and Mr. Rovansek have agreed to serve on the selection committee, Mr. Allison commented that eight firms have submitted proposals in response to the RFP. Engineer selection will be made after review of the proposals submitted.

Ms. Sosko commented that LTAP classes this year have been very well attended. She noted that recent attendees have been from municipalities that have not previously participated in the training sessions.

Ms. Kinka apprised the members that it was announced at a recent PA State House of Representatives Transportation Committee hearing that AMTRAK has added an additional baggage car to the Pennsylvanian (passenger train between NYC and Pittsburgh) to facilitate bicycle storage. She indicated that this is expected to have a positive impact on recreation and economic development in our area.

GIS PRESENTATION

At this time, Mr. Steve Kocsis, Cambria County GIS Director, gave an interactive presentation on current GIS capabilities, noting that the system is migrating toward newer technology. He highlighted various tools and applications available to the public through the GIS, commenting that the dynamic capabilities of the system are endless. Mr. Kocsis stated that the County's emergency services department, as well as the County Assessment Office, updates data in the system on a daily basis.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff stated that a quorum was not present at the August meeting, therefore, no official business could be conducted. However, at the August meeting, the members present discussed the consultant selection process for the Johnstown Housing Strategy and moved that czb.llc be selected to prepare the strategy. Subsequently, Mr. Imhoff contacted each Commission member to ascertain their input on the consultant selection. With all members in agreement that czb.llc be selected to prepare the Johnstown Housing Strategy, Mr. Wolf made a motion to ratify the August 15, 2019 motion. The ratifying motion was seconded by Mr. Kiel and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Rovansek stated that there was no "New Business" on today's agenda.

Mr. Batdorf made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wolf and passed unanimously.