

CUMBERLAND COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting

April 16, 2009

The monthly meeting of the Cumberland County Planning Commission was held Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. at Business Central, 18 N. Hanover Street, Carlisle, PA.

Roll Call

Members present included Jackie Eakin, William Forrey, Allan Williams, Ron Glesner, Chris Knarr, Debi Ealer, Raj Jain, Bruce Rosendale, Barbara Wilson, Ex-Officio member Commissioner Gary Eichelberger. Staff members present included Kirk Stoner, Jim Szymborski, Jeff Kelly, Jim Bennett and Tracey Yoder. Municipal representatives present were John Epley-West Penn Township, Greg Moll-Upper Allen Township, Michael Gossert-Hampden Township, Tim Ebersole-Shippensburg University, Stephen Heitsch-Carlisle Borough, Bill Wolfe-Borough of Shippensburg, and Dan Flint-Lower Allen Township. Guests included Chris Houston-LeTort Regional Authority, Perry Heath, Don Grell, Susan Armstrong, Mike Keiser, Frank Rankin, Sean Shultz, Doug Heineman – Carlisle Borough, Jason Scott– The Sentinel, Duane Fickeisch, and Pam Frohman - Clean Air Board, Jody Harpster-Shippensburg University, Nick Stamos, Ken Shultz, and Rusty Shunk-Dickinson College, David Parthemore-N. Newton Township, Mike Piaskowski-Pa Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources, Chad Decker and Bill Brown-Dewberry, and Karen Barone-DCA

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jackie Eakin at 7:34 a.m.

Minutes

A motion to approve the March 19, 2009 meeting minutes was made by Debi Ealer, seconded by Allan Williams. The vote was unanimous.

Public Comment:

None

New Business:

A. Smart Transportation Ranking (action)

Kirk welcomed municipal representatives and gave them instruction for presentations to the Planning Commission for support of applying for transportation funding.

Hampden Township Manager Mike Gossert presented a \$2,500,000.00 project for improvement of the Carlisle Pike Corridor. The project suggests adding a second West Bound lane of Carlisle Pike from Central Boulevard to Sporting Hill Road with minor intersection improvements.

Stephen Hietsch, Carlisle Borough Manager presented a Downtown Carlisle Traffic Safety and Mobility Project. The total project cost is \$3,051,000.00, the requested amount of support is \$2,826,000.00; the total project cost includes Carlisle Borough's full coverage of the project engineering and design costs. The project request is to construct multi-modal transportation improvements in Downtown Carlisle to enhance the safety and mobility of the existing transportation network.

Tim Ebersole of Shippensburg University presented a Cumberland Valley Rail Trail Shippensburg Connector Project which would include construction of a bridge to span Fogelsonger Road and connect existing 11 mile CVRT to Shippensburg University and the vibrant Shippensburg downtown. The

project costs are \$1,413,500.00, requesting \$1,278,500.00. \$135,000.00 of preconstruction activities will be funded through other state and local sources. An application is pending to DCNR.

West Pennsboro Manager, John Epley presented a project to connect SR 233 and Mount Rock Road. The project will connect major state route 233 to Big Spring School District Campus, located along Mt. Rock Road. This connector will help to eliminate congestion in the center of Newville at the beginning and end of the school day.

Lower Allen Township Engineer, Dan Flint discussed Rossmoyne Road/Lisburn Road Town Center Alignment. The location would be Rossmoyne Road (SR 2021) from the bridge over the PA Turnpike to Lisburn Road (SR 2017) at Arcona Road (SR 2015). The project would be the realignment of two existing "T" intersections into single Town Center.

Greg Moll, Upper Allen Township Manager presented two projects, the first being Arcona Road Corridor Intersection, Roadway and Greenway Improvements. Upper Allen has negotiated the dedication and construction of a 5,900 L.F. bicycle and pedestrian path that links several residential developments and parks providing for safe routes. The project also includes realignment to improve safety along Arcona Road and the intersection with East Winding Hill Road. The second project presented by Mr. Moll is PA Route 114 Pedestrian and Traffic Enhancements between Kim Acres Drive and Mechanicsburg Middle School. The project would enhance pedestrian circulation between Kim Acres Drive and Mechanicsburg Middle School and enhance traffic flow at the US Route 15/PA 114 Interchange. This project was listed as priority over the trail project by municipal planning commission.

Bill Wolfe of the Borough of Shippensburg presented the application that was submitted requesting \$30,600.00 for 174 Curbs. The project includes placement of curbs at intersection of SR 11 & SR 174 to the intersection of SR 174 & E. Orange Street.

Kirk thanked all who attended to give presentations; he explained that there have been over 400 applications submitted statewide for projects over \$600 Million, there are only \$60 Million of statewide funds available. Through the MPO of Harrisburg Area, a decision was made to have local review of the projects to enhance the prioritization process and submit local priorities back to HATS and PennDot for funding considerations.

Planning Commission members discussed and recommended their top two priorities for funding consideration. Chris Knarr provided written statement and noted that he would abstain from voting due to conflict of interest.

Cumberland County Planning Commission recommends Carlisle Borough as a top priority project and the Carlisle Pike Corridor project as second priority to HATS and PennDot on a motion made by Rajesh Jain, seconded by Barbara Wilson; abstained by Chris Knarr.

B. Subdivision and Land Development Plans (Information)

Jeff referred to the list of plans that were presented this month. There were only 4 plans submitted for review. The largest plan was in Upper Allen Township, Bowman's Preserve, a 44 unit townhouse development; the preliminary plan had already been reviewed. There are 5 acres of open space on the 11.7 acre plan. Jeff also referred to a copy in the meeting packet of the total acreage developed this year in and out of growth areas.

C. Ordinance Amendments (Action)

The following amendment requires action by the Commission.

1. Penn – Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance update

Penn Township submitted a revision of their Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. The ordinance committee reviewed the amendment. A few comments to be addressed are adding criteria to provide a threshold of traffic impact studies. Private right of ways are not addressed in the new ordinance, the topic was addressed in the old ordinance. Also, the ordinance prohibits shared driveways which conflicts with the zoning ordinance.

The Penn Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance amendment was approved with the added comments on a motion made by William Forrey, seconded by Allan Williams. The vote was unanimous.

D. Ordinance Amendments (information)

The following items were recommended for approval with staff comment.

1. Lower Allen – Subdivision Ord. amendment – Increase amount of required open space per dwelling unit
2. Middlesex – Zoning Ord. amendment – Allow ministry uses in CH zone
3. South Middleton – Zoning Ord. amendment – Setback revisions in commercial and industrial districts
4. South Middleton – Subdivision Ord. amendment – Requirements for new development in flood plains

E. Sewerage Modules

The following modules were reviewed by staff.

1. Silver Spring – Millfording Highlands – 3 residential lots – (public)
2. South Middleton – Triple L Farm – 1 residential unit (septic)
3. Upper Mifflin – Richard and Darlene Smith – 1 residential unit (small flow treatment facility)

F. 2009 County Program Update

Kirk referred to the updated work program of the planning department in the meeting packet. He announced that there has been a grant from the Housing and Redevelopment Authority for \$20,000.00 to assist with the Comprehensive Plan Update, these funds will be matched with DCED money to hire a consultant.

Municipal assistance is being provided to Shiremanstown, working with the Redevelopment Authority for downtown visioning project. Assistance is also being provided to Dickinson Township for their zoning ordinance update, using community viz to model scenarios for different zoning options.

G. Regional Growth Management Plan Committee Appointment (action)

Rajesh Jain was appointed as the comp plan committee representative and Bruce Rosendale was appointed as the Planning Commission representative to the Regional Growth Management Plan Committee on a motion made by Chris Knarr, seconded by Ron Glesner. The vote was unanimous.

H. Regional Growth Management Plan Scope of Work

Kirk reported that the Comprehensive Plan Committee met and reviewed the memo that was submitted to Tri-County regarding the scope of work. Chris Knarr added that the meeting went well and thanked Jim and his staff for coming. Jim reiterated that the clarity of the final production is to substantially update and strengthen the economic base element and reevaluate the population projections and housing needs in community service areas. Within those areas identify vacant land most desirable for development, and

see the effect on planned growth areas. Other elements include how the county and municipal comprehensive plans can incorporate the concepts of the regional growth management plan.

I. Regional Program Update

Jim referred to the updated regional work program progress monitoring. He mentioned there will be a legislative session at the Capitol on June 2, 2009 focusing on identifying sustainable funding for goods movement initiatives. There will be a request of FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) to create a peer-to-peer team on public/private partnerships to discuss real life examples of successful partnerships. He also added that the CAT service study is in the final stage which will include the Carlisle Service, Improved West Shore Service, Progress Avenue Service, an Intersection Study, and CAT capitol improvements.

The next quarterly GIS meeting will be scheduled in May. There will be more coordination between County Staff and Tri-County staff to identify inconsistent data and make adjustments to revise information or compare the differences. The updating is being completed of the CAT bus routes. The data will be transferred to the CAT website to enable the public to view maps with routes applied.

Chairman, Jackie Eakin thanked everyone for their participation and discussion regarding the recommendation for the funding of the transportation projects.

The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Thursday May 21, 2009, 7:30 a.m. at Business Central, Carlisle. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m. on a motion made by Barbara Wilson, seconded by Deb Ealer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracey Yoder
Administrative Coordinator