

The Northern Lehigh Multimunicipal Comprehensive Plan

Update Meeting

June 4, 2019 – 5:30 PM, Lowhill Township Municipal Building

Steering Committee Attendees:

Dawn Didra – Heidelberg Township
Janice Meyers – Heidelberg Township
Robb A. Werley – Lowhill Township
Brian Carl – Lowhill & Weisenberg Townships
Brian Dietrich – Lynn Township
Jason Ruff – Slatington Borough
Todd Weidman – Washington Township
Tony Werley – Weisenberg Township
Linda Gorgas – Weisenberg Township

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Jan Sutermeister – Heidelberg Township Resident

Planning Partners in Attendance:

Becky Bradley – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
Charles Doyle – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
Jon Von Kerczek – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

Minutes:

Introductions

Steering Committee attendees took roll call. Mr. Doyle introduced Mr. Kerczek to the Steering Committee members.

Multimunicipal Attorney Representation

Mr. Carl introduced the concept of a solicitor to represent the all six municipalities should there be any future validity challenges that may arise after adoption of the Multimunicipal Comprehensive Plan. Hiring a single attorney would provide the opportunity for the municipalities to collectively save money, should they require representation. Mr. Weidman supported the consideration of such an idea, as Washington Township is currently under challenge for an outdoor venue. Mr. Carl then heeded caution for the updated zoning for the region with concern for addressing any emerging land use types that were not previously considered during the planning process. The Committee collectively agreed to consideration of a collective team or single selected solicitor, however consensus was not finalized.

Planning Services Agreement

Mr. Carl confirmed Weisenberg's solicitor had reviewed the Planning Services agreement. The Committee then discussed a formal process for adoption by all municipalities. Mr. Weidman and Mr. Ruff confirmed they will need to review approval from Slatington Borough and

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Washington Township, respectively. Consensus regarding the matter was left outstanding, pending approval from all municipal solicitors.

Charrette Planning

The Steering Committee members were asked to provide a final version of a Stakeholders list by Friday, June 7, in order to provide ample time to notify invitees to the upcoming Charrette meetings on June 12, 13, and 17.

Mr. Doyle then introduced the procedures for the Charrette event and inquired the Committee on how they would prefer the materials for meetings are organized, where the Committee agreed each location may be significantly different, but enough room would be available for poster boards for Charrette voting at all locations. Ms. Bradley introduced the voting strategy by each of the attendees and the collective approval of topics by each of the break-out groups. Additionally, the results will be posted online where a follow-up voting to ensure consensus of concerns by the community were reiterated. Mr. Doyle confirmed the following Steering Committee meeting will address the Charrette meeting and a survey concerning the Charrette will be presented at that meeting.

PlanNL.org Website

Ms. Bradley presented the draft PlanNL.org website to the Steering Committee. The group reviewed the pages and content within the website for approval. Mr. Doyle ensured the Committee members would receive a link to the website and requested the Steering Committee members provide input on any aspects that may need revisions or amendments.

Representative and Participant Contact List

Mr. Doyle requested finalization of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee members agreed to coordinate with Mr. Doyle and LVCP staff to finalize the Steering Members.

The Steering Committee then finalized the meeting by agreeing to the arranged, subsequent Steering Committee meeting at 5:30pm on July, 2, 2019 at the Lowhill Township municipal building.

Minutes prepared and respectfully transmitted by Charles Doyle, LVPC.