

The Northern Lehigh Multimunicipal Comprehensive Plan

Update Meeting

October 1, 2019 – 5:30 PM, Lowhill Township Municipal Building

Steering Committee Attendees:

Dawn Didra – Heidelberg Township
Janice Meyers – Heidelberg Township
Steve Bachman – Heidelberg Township
Robb A. Werley – Lowhill Township
Jason Ruff – Slatington Borough
Todd Weidman – Washington Township
Tony Werley – Weisenberg Township

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Planning Partners in Attendance:

Charles Doyle – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
Becky Bradley – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

Minutes:

Introductions

Steering Committee attendees took roll call.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Ruff addressed the group with a comments concerning the amount of effort that has been undertaken for economic development within the Northern Lehigh region. He provided an opportunity to discuss the importance of attracting the right type of development and questioned how the comprehensive plan could assist in efforts. The Committee members discussed previous efforts in management of the region and it was noted that this would be an important aspect of the comprehensive plan.

Issues & Opportunities Review

Mr. Doyle provided an update on staff progress towards producing an Issues and Opportunities paper. He indicated the report would ultimately provide guidance toward a collective consensus of goals and objectives for the Comprehensive Plan. The group briefly discussed the importance of data already collected and identified outstanding needs for the Issues and Opportunities paper. The group also discussed the data that was presented throughout the planning process during public outreach events and identified needs from various Steering Committee meetings.

Mr. Ruff introduced the concept of revitalization for Slatington and discussed the opportunities for redevelopment of its downtown. The group discussed different approaches to guiding interest into the region while maintaining its character and ensuring the development capitalizes on the recreational and agricultural assets of the communities. In order to address Slatington

specifically, Mr. Doyle agreed to pursue an opportunity to discuss potential options for desired growth with other Slatington officials.

Mr. Doyle then provided an exercise for the Steering members with print outs of the Goal and Objectives identified in the previous Comprehensive Plan. The outcome of this review would be important for the Steering Committee to consider the strengths and weaknesses of the previous plan and how to address the desires of the community for planning their future.

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

Minutes prepared and respectfully transmitted by Charles Doyle, LVPC.