LEHIGH VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes from the Thursday, November 21, 2019 Meeting

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission met for its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission’s conference room located at 961 Marcon Boulevard, Suite 310, Allentown, PA.

Mr. Repasch chaired the meeting.

Ms. Vazquez took Roll Call.

Members in Attendance:

Lehigh County
Percy Dougherty, Steven Glickman, Kent Herman, Richard Molchan, Owen O’Neil, Kathy Rader, and Steven Repasch

Northampton County
Christopher Amato, Liesel Dreisbach, Charles Elliott, Susan Lawless, Robert Lammi, Carl Manges, Stephen Melnick, Pamela Pearson, and Tina Smith

Members Absent:

Lehigh County
Bob Elbich, Mike Gibson, Julio Guridy, Michael Harakal, Miriam Huertas, Christina Morgan, Marty Nothstein, Kevin Schmidt, Leonard Lighter, and Donna Wright

Northampton County
Janell Connolly, Malissa Davis, Darlene Heller, Kevin Lott, William McGee, John McGorry, David O’Connell, Spirit Rutzler, Gerald Yob, and Greg Zebrowski

Staff Present: Charles Doyle, Tracy Oscavich, Geoff Reese, Jill Seitz, David Towsey, and Bethany Vazquez

Public Present: Ron Carlson

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None.
MINUTES

Mr. Repasch stated that the minutes of the October 31, 2019 LVPC meeting are attached. Mr. Elliott made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Lawless seconded the motion. With Mr. Molchany abstaining from the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Mr. Repasch announced that Executive Director, Becky Bradley, along with Vice Chair Greg Zebrowski and LVPC Directors Peter Barnard and Matt Assad, were absent due to the FutureLV adopt meeting for Northampton County Council. In order to support the adoption and answer questions related to the plan, Ms. Bradley, Mr. Zebrowski, Mr. Barnard, and Mr. Assad were needed in attendance at the Northampton County Council Meeting. Mr. Repasch introduced David Towsey, new Senior GIS Planner, to the Commission. Mr. Towsey gave a brief introduction of himself.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Comprehensive Planning Committee

1. Project Review, Summary Sheet
   Ms. Dreisbach reviewed the Comprehensive Plan project summary sheet. The proposals are either consistent with the county comprehensive plan or matters of local concern. Ms. Dreisbach made a motion to approve the staff comments. Mr. Melnick seconded the motion. With Ms. Lawless abstaining from the motion, the motion passed.

Environment Committee

1. Project Review, Summary Sheet
   Mr. Lammi reviewed the Environment Committee summary sheet. The application does not conflict with the county comprehensive plan. Mr. Lammi made a motion to approve the staff comments. Mr. Glickman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Transportation Committee

1. Walk/RollLV: Active Transportation Plan
   Mr. Reese gave a brief update on the status of the Walk/RollLV draft plan. The draft plan has been received by the consultant and is under review by the staff. Mr. Reese reviewed the Priority Bicycle Commuting Corridor and Catalytic Project locations. Ms. Mackey reviewed the Visionary Bike Network and the 32 additional connections identified by the consultant. A joint meeting of the Multimodal Working Group, Freight Advisory Committee, and LVTS committees will occur on December 4 at the LVPC from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.
OLD BUSINESS

1. FutureLV
   Ms. Oscavich gave a brief recap of the November 14th FutureLV Chamber Event and gave a brief review of the adoption process. Ms. Oscavich also announced that Northampton County adopted FutureLV: The Regional Plan at their Council Meeting on November 21st.

NEW BUSINESS

1. WorkshopLV: Housing
   Ms. Oscavich reviewed the purpose, concept, and goals of the housing working group such as attainable housing, growth management, the governmental process, equity and access to opportunity. The workshop will be meeting on December 18th at the Workforce Board Lehigh Valley office beginning at 3:00 pm.

COMMUNICATION

1. Triad Associates Letter
   Ms. Oscavich reviewed a letter received by Triad Associates thanking the LVPC for recognition in the 2019 LV Gala + Awards with the Commission

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

   Ms. Oscavich presented information on the October Monthly BuildLV: Subdivision and Land Development Report. The report will be distributed publicly around the 15th of each month and is available at lvpc.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS TO ATTEND THE FOLLOWING WERE MADE:

1. Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) @ LVPC Office, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
   The upcoming LTAP class will be LTAP Active Transportation Pilot, December 6th.

2. Lehigh Valley Government Academy
   The Zoning course is currently underway.

3. WorkshopLV: Housing
   The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission will be holding a housing workshop on December 18th at the Workforce board Lehigh Valley office from 3:00 – 4:30 pm.

4. December Food Bank Collection
   Ms. Vazquez announced that the December Food Drive will begin soon. To benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank.
Adjournment

With no further business, Mr. Molchany made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Repasch seconded the motion.

Submitted by:
Tracy Oscavich, Director of Development
Bethany Vazquez, Program Associate