The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission met for its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday, September 26, 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, Bob Elbich, Steven Glickman, Kent Herman, Richard Molchany, Christina Morgan, Kathy Rader, Stephen Repasch, Kevin Schmidt, and Donna Wright

**Northampton County**
Christopher Amato, Janell Connolly, Charles Elliott, Susan Lawless, Robert Lammi, Kevin Lott, John McGorry, Stephen Melnick, David O’Connell, Pamela Pearson, Spirit Rutzler, Tina Smith, and Greg Zebrowski

Members Absent:

**Lehigh County**
Mike Gibson, Julio Guridy, Michael Harakal, Miriam Huertas, Owen O’Neil, Marty Nothstein, and Leonard Lightner

**Northampton County**
Malissa Davis, Liesel Dreisbach, Darlene Heller, Carl Manges, William McGee, and Gerald Yob

Staff Present: Becky Bradley, Bethany Vazquez, Charles Doyle, Tracy Oscavich, Geoff Reese, Matt Assad, Peter Barnard, and Sue Rockwell

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Repasch addresses the public requesting any comments to the Commission. Mr. Wildford-Hunt requests that he and his party wait until the Act 537 Environmental Committee items is presented. Mr. Repasch agreed.

MINUTES

Mr. Repasch stated that the minutes of the August 27, 2019 LVPC meeting are attached. Mr. Glickman made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Lammi seconded the motion. With Ms. Morgan, Ms. Lawless, Ms. Wright, and Ms. Rader abstaining from the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Mr. Repasch shared that the LVPC Executive Committee has designated the month of October to be “National Community Planning Month”. Ms. Bradley provided background information regarding the American Planning Association and Community Planning Month to the Commission.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Comprehensive Planning Committee

1. Berks County – County Comprehensive Plan Update - Revisions
   Mr. Barnard reviewed the Berks County Comprehensive Plan Update with the Commission. The initial draft of the Berks County Comprehensive Plan 2030 Update was previously reviewed by the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission. The LVPC staff found the revisions to the policies and maps to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan for Lehigh and Northampton Counties. Ms. Wright made a motion to approve the staff comments. Mr. Dougherty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Project Review, Summary Sheet
   Mr. Barnard presented the Comprehensive Committee Project Review Summary Sheet. Four items were reviewed in the Comprehensive Committee Project Summary Sheet. All items are either matters of local concern or consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Wright made a motion to approve the presented staff comments. Mr. Elbich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Environment Committee

1. Act 537 – Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan – Upper Mount Bethel Township
   Ms. Rockwell reviewed the Upper Mount Bethel Township Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan. Overall, the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission recommended that the Upper Mounty Bethel Township Act 537 Plan be coordinated with the ongoing Plan Slate Belt multi-municipal comprehensive planning effort. Providing
public sewers in the proposed locations could have profound impacts on the growth of the municipality as well as its farmland and natural resources. As such, any decision of that type should be based on a thorough evaluation of sewage disposal needs and the consequences of various solution alternatives. Ms. Ruztler stated that the wording in the comments stating “could have profound impact” should be changed to “will have profound impact”. Mr. Repasch opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Klein and Mr. Wilford-Hunt thanked the Commission for their time and for their feedback on the project. They expressed their agreement with the comments presented as well as the change Ms. Rutzler suggested. Mr. Molchany requested that the Plan Slate Belt communities be cc’d on the letter as well. Mr. Lammi made a motion to approve the staff comments with Ms. Rutzler’s and Mr. Molchany’s changes. Mr. Zebrowski seconded the motion. With Mr. Elbich abstaining from the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

2. **Walk/RollLV: Active Transportation Plan**
   Mr. Reese gave an update of the Walk/RollLV: Active Transportation Plan. The LVPC staff has received an entire draft of the plan from the consultant and is currently in the processing of reviewing the document. The next multimodal working group meeting will occur on October 23rd at the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission beginning at 3:00 pm.

**Transportation Committee**

1. **Lehigh Valley Transportation Study Technical and Coordinating Committees Working Sessions and the Long-Range Transportation Plan.**
   Ms. Bradley shared that for over 40 hours the LVTS board met to discuss the Long-Range Transportation Plan and hear presentations from all the eligible communities who placed projects into the FutureLV “Call for Projects”.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **FutureLV**
   Ms. Bradley gave an update on the status of the Planning Action Team meetings that took place during the months of August and September, as well as the public outreach efforts as they related to the FutureLV plan. Ms. Bradley reviewed the public comments, responses and proposed revisions for the *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* draft. Final edits, resulting from the public comment period, will be presented to the Commission during the FutureLV Working Group meeting on October 21st at the LVPC office from 3:00 – 5:00 pm.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Health In All Policies Resolution**
   Ms. Bradley reviewed the Executive Committee’s “Health In All Policies” resolution with the Commission.
COMMUNICATION

1. **2019 Lehigh Valley Gala and Awards Update**
   The 6th Annual Lehigh Valley Gala + Awards will be taking place on October 16th at DeSales University Center. Networking begins at 4:00 pm, Dinner/Program will begin at 5:00 pm.

2. **Build Grant Update**
   Ms. Oscavich provided the commission with the grant call campaign information.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

1. **Monthly BuildLV: Subdivision and Land Development Report**
   Ms. Bradley presented information on the August 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. **Planning + Pizza, 12:00 – 1:00 pm**
   The next P+P sessions will be held on October 30th, Multimunicipal Cooperation, and November 20th, FutureLV: The Regional Plan. Ms. Bradley also announced that the first ever Planning + Pretzels will take place at the LVPC office on October 31st beginning at 2 pm to discuss the creation of a water working group.

2. **Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) @ LVPC Office**
   The upcoming LTAP class will be Salt + Snow Management, October 31st, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Sign + Safety features for bridges/culverts, October 22nd, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, and Stormwater Facility Operations and Maintenance, November 8th, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

3. **Lehigh Valley Government Academy**
   The Community Planning Course has been completed and the Subdivision + Land Development Review course will begin on October 4th. The Zoning Course will begin in November. Registration is closed for this course.

4. **Slate Belt Bash**
   The Slate Belt Bash will occur on September 29th from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm at Weona Park.

5. **Metropolitan Area Planning Forum**
   The MAP Forum Freight meeting will take place on October 8th at the LVPC Office from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

6. **Lehigh Valley General Assembly**
The Lehigh Valley General Assembly will occur on October 24th at the Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus beginning at 7:00 pm.

7. *Lehigh Valley Consortium of Professional Organizations Event*
   The Lehigh Valley Consortium of Professional Organizations will be holding an event on November 12th, at the Lehigh County Bar Association, to discuss *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

8. *FutureLV Event with the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce*
   The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, in partnership with the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce, will be holding a FutureLV event on November 14th at ArtsQuest from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

9. *Freight Advisory Committee*
   The Freight Advisory Committee will meet at the LVPC office on December 4th beginning at 10:00 am.

**Adjournment**

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

Submitted by:
Becky Bradley, AICP, Executive Director
Bethany Vazquez, Program Associate