Mr. Repasch chaired the meeting.

Ms. Vazquez took Roll Call.

Members in Attendance:

Lehigh County
Phillips Armstrong, Percy Dougherty, Bob Elbich, Kent Herman, Richard Molchany, Christina Morgan, Owen O’Neil, Kathy Rader, Stephen Repasch, Kevin Schmidt, and Donna Wright

Northampton County
Christopher Amato, Liesel Dreisbach, Charles Elliott, Darlene Heller, Susan Lawless, Robert Lammi, Kevin Lott, Carl Manges, Bill McGee, John McGorry, Stephen Melnick, Pamela Pearson, Tina Smith, Gerald Yob, and Greg Zebrowski

Members Absent:

Lehigh County
Mike Gibson, Steve Glickman, Julio Guridy, Michael Harakal, Miriam Huertas, Marty Nothstein, and Leonard Lightner

Northampton County
Janell Connolly, Malissa Davis, David O’Connell, and Spirit Rutzler

Staff Present: Matt Assad, Peter Barnard, Becky Bradley, Mike Donchez, Charles Doyle, Carol Halper, Brian Hite, Craig Kackenmeister, Teresa Mackey, Mahdis Modaresi, Paul Nohar, Simon Okumu, Tracy Oscavich, Geoff Reese, Bruce Rider, Sue Rockwell, Jill Seitz, David Towsey, Elena Tucci, and Bethany Vazquez

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

None.
MINUTES

Mr. Repasch stated that the minutes of the November 21, 2019 LVPC meeting are attached. Mr. Lammi made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Zebrowski seconded the motion.

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Mr. Repasch announced that the December 19 Full Commission meeting would be his last meeting acting as Chair. Ms. Bradley presented Mr. Repasch with a recognition gift thanking Mr. Repasch for his service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Comprehensive Planning Committee

1. City of Allentown – Land Use of Regional Significance – The Waterfront, Phase 2 (Old Plan)

   Mr. Barnard reviewed the land use of significance for the City of Allentown. The proposed development would construct a mixed-use development consisting of 179 apartments, 107,000 sq. ft. of office space, 37,000 sq. ft. of retail space, 35,000 sq. ft. of restaurant space, and 80,000 sq. ft. for a parking deck. The project qualifies as a land use of regional significance because it surpasses the threshold of 100,000 sq. ft. of office space. The proposal is generally consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan because it is located in an area designated for Urban Development. The LVPC notes previous reviews of “The Waterfront Phase 1” and reaffirms the comment found in the review letter dating April 1, 2013, regarding development within the floodway. The County Comprehensive Plan supports the redevelopment of the property within the floodway if adequate flood-proofing measures are taken to protect improvements and buildings from future flooding events. Mr. Barnard reviewed the Comprehensive Committee’s changes to the original staff comment letter with the Commission. Ms. Wright made a motion to approve the letter with the changes from the Comprehensive Committee. Mr. Amato seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. City of Bethlehem – Land Use of Regional Significance – Wind Creek Bethlehem (New Plan)

   Mr. Barnard reviewed the land use of regional significance for the City of Bethlehem. The subject application proposes to expand the existing Wind Creek Hotel and Conference Center by replacing an existing parking lot with a new 412,273 sq. ft. facility. This facility would include a new hotel tower with 270 rooms, conference facilities, new loading dock and trash compactor. The expansion would also require reconfiguring the hotel entrance, adjacent road, modifying the parking lot directly west of the expansion, and new landscaping. These site changes include pedestrian improvements and traffic calming measures near the main entrance. This proposal is generally consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan because it is in an area designated for Development, is within the Historic
Center of South Bethlehem, and is well served by a mix of transportation options. Ms. Wright made a motion to approve the staff comments. Mr. McGee seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Ms. Heller abstaining from the vote.

3. **Project Review, Summary Sheet**
   Ms. Wright reviewed the Comprehensive Plan project summary sheet. Ms. Wright stated that if there are no questions from the Commission she would like to make a motion to approve the staff comments. Mr. Dougherty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

**Environment Committee**

1. **Walk/RollLV: Active Transportation Plan**
   Mr. Reese gave a brief update on the status of the Walk/RollLV draft plan. The plan is open for public comment from December 5, 2019 to January 18, 2020. A public meeting for the plan will be held on January 8 as part of the Joint LVTS Technical/Coordinating Committees meeting at 9 am at the LVPC office. The Multimodal Working Group will meet on January 22 at the LVPC beginning at 3 pm.

2. **Forest and Woodland Conservation Survey**
   Mr. Reese announced that the Pennsylvania State University Forest and Woodland Conservation Survey is out and asked for volunteers from the Commission to complete the survey.

**Transportation Committee**

1. **Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2021-2024 / All this money? All these plans? Unwrapping it all**
   Ms. Bradley began the presentation with a breakdown of the roles and difference between LVPC and LVTS. The state has its own version of LVTS with a separate board and short-range plan called the State Transportation Commission. Ms. Bradley explained that the State Transportation Commission and its members have their own twelve-year plan, and its implications concerning the current LVTS TIP for the Lehigh Valley. Mr. Doyle continued the conversation by giving a brief presentation on the Draft Transportation Improvement Program 2021-2024 for the Lehigh Valley. Mr. Doyle reminded the committee that this program is updated every two years and LVTS was putting the project list together. The LVTS is expected to adopt the next TIP at its June meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **FutureLV**
   Ms. Bradley announced that *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* has been adopted. Northampton County adopted the plan on November 21st, 2019, effective on November 22nd, 2019. Lehigh County adopted the plan on November 26th, 2019, effective on December 9th, 2019.
NEW BUSINESS

1. **2020 Budget and Workplan**
   Ms. Bradley and Mr. Rider reviewed the 2020 Budget and Workplan with the Commission.

2. **2020 LVPC Full Commission and Committee Meetings Dates/Calendar**
   Ms. Vazquez reviewed the proposed 2020 LVPC Full Commission and Committee Meetings dates with the Commission.

3. **2020 Election of LVPC Officers**
   Mr. Herman announced that the nominating committee, composed of Executive McClure, Ms. Dreisbach and Mr. Herman, met to discuss the nominees for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer. The committee nominated Mr. Zebrowski for Chair, Mr. Glickman for Vice Chair, and Ms. Pearson for Treasurer. Mr. Herman made a motion to approve the nominees as presented to the Commission. Mr. Melnick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATION

1. **FutureLV Column**
   Mr. Assad announced that Ms. Bradley’s FutureLV Column ran on Sunday, December 1, 2019 and encouraged the Commission to review the article.

2. **2020 Events and Engagement**
   Ms. Vazquez reviewed the upcoming 2020 events and engagement efforts with the Commission. The Local Technical Assistance Program will launch again on January 29th with the Roadway Safety Features Course. This will be an all-day course beginning at 8:00 am. WorkshopLV: Housing will continue into the new year with its first meeting on February 13th at the LVPC beginning at 4:00 pm. Ms. Vazquez announced that a new name has been given to the previously known “Planning + Pizza” sessions, which will now be known as “Planning on the Menu” and be held at various times throughout the year. The first of these sessions will be “Data + Donuts” on February 26th at the LVPC beginning at 8:30 am where the latest Housing Market Report will be presented.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

1. **Monthly BuildLV: Subdivision and Land Development Report**
   Ms. Bradley presented information on the December 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 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING WERE MADE:

1. *December Food Bank Collection*  
   Ms. Oscavich announced that the December Food Drive is in progress and will 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:  
Becky Bradley, AICP, Executive Director  
Bethany Vazquez, Program Associate