



Catasauqua Borough | East Allen Township | Hanover Township
North Catasauqua Borough | Northampton Borough

RIVER CENTRAL MULTI-MUNICIPAL PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE Minutes from March 9, 2021 – 7PM

WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS

ROLL CALL

Members

Steve Travers – Catasauqua Borough
Tammi Hauser – Catasauqua Borough
Bob Mills – East Allen Township
Chris Cruz – East Allen Township
Brent Green – East Allen Township
Mark Thomas – Hanover Township
Melissa Wehr – Hanover Township
Vicky Roth – Hanover Township
Peter Paone – North Catasauqua Borough
LeRoy Brobst – Northampton Borough

Others in Attendance

Becky Bradley – LVPC
Tracy Oscavich – LVPC
Samantha Smith – LVPC
Jill Seitz – LVPC
Victor Rodite – Northampton Borough
Ryan Meyer – Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority
AJ Jordan – LANTA
Molly Wood- LANTA

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

MINUTES – February 9, 2021

The committee reviews the prior meeting minutes. Brent Green requests a motion to approve.

MOTION: By Steve Travers. Second by Melissa Wehr.

COMMUNITY DELIVERABLES

Samantha Smith reviews community deliverable items needed and remind the committee to submit stakeholder invitee lists. LeRoy Brobst states that a list is in the works for Northampton Borough. Brent Green recommends moving forward and they will provide invites to people they think should be invited.

Becky Bradley reviews the importance of municipal budgets in developing recommendations for the plan and leads a discussion about COVID-19 impacts to municipal budgets, anticipated future large investments and known plans to increase taxes or fees.

Vicky Roth and Melissa Wehr state that it's too early in the year to project where Hanover Township will be and that there is a capital improvement plan but using caution with purchasing. Steve Travers states that he will put something together. Brent Green states that East Allen Township hasn't changed anything capital improvement-wise and have not seen impacts due to the Pandemic. Leroy Brobst states that Northampton Borough has seen an impact. Becky Bradley requests that municipal budgets be sent to LVPC either digitally or mailed.

Samantha Smith reviews known existing plans and ordinances as well as adoption dates, and asks if everything looks correct and if anything is missing. The committee members provide confirmation or corrections. Ryan Meyer notes an airport master plan has just been finalized, and AJ Jordan notes the LANTA service plan.

POTENTIAL PUBLIC OUTREACH / CHARETTE DATES

Becky Bradley provides an overview of potential dates and times for public outreach charettes. The committee unanimously agrees with the dates identified and decides to cancel the April 13th meeting so that public comments from the charettes can be collected and discussed at the May 11th meeting.

PARALLEL WORK EFFORTS / KEY ISSUES + PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Jill Seitz reviews the functionality of Google Jamboard as a potential tool to be used during the charettes. Jill leads committee through a discussion about projects occurring simultaneously with the River Central planning effort, issues the communities have found with their current plans that should be addressed in the River Central planning effort and what project objectives the committee would like to see from the multi-municipal comprehensive plan.

Brent Green notes that the East Allen Township is looking at a parks and recreation assessment and referendum on open space projects. Steve notes the recently completed Front Street Streetscape Improvements. Melissa states that they are looking forward to updating and improving upon the Township's previous plan and is excited to be a part of the intermunicipal relationship. Brent and Pete Paone note principles and elements within current plans that are outdated with modern practices. The committee provides feedback about Google Jamboard.

	Catasauqua Borough	East Allen Township	Hanover Township (LC)	North Catasauqua Borough	Northampton Borough
Fire Service Coordination					
Trucks! Help!	water plant generator	Brent Green East Allen	Melissa Wehr - Hanover Township	completing: 1) storm sewer project on Main and Green Street, 2) Borough Complex Road Project through LSA, 3) Multi-Modal Study with Northampton County 4) (fingers crossed!) D&L section with Northampton Borough under.	Leroy Brobst, Northampton
	Tammi Hauser Catasauqua	Open Space Program	Open Space in Hanover; Need a plan	Our D&L project improve connections to Northampton and Catasauqua. A multi-modal study in work sponsored by Northampton County has to connect East Allen, Allen, and Hanover-Birn-Bath Trail	
	Steve Travers Catasauqua	Look at new issues like the growth in logistics	Mark Thomas/HanLeCo	Home-based businesses and WFH planning	
	grant sewer plant upgrades				
	ironworks				
	D&L				
Becky Bradley, testing too ;)					



PROJECT SCHEDULE STATUS

Samantha reviews project schedule status.

CLOSING REMARKS + ADJOURNMENT

Becky summarizes next steps of public engagement through the charettes and community survey to follow. Pete mentions that the North Catasauqua and Northampton Boroughs' attorney has comments about the waiver release, that will be sent to Becky.

MOTION: By LeRoy Brobst to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Melissa Wehr.

Submitted by:
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission