



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

RIVER CENTRAL MULTI-MUNICIPAL PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE Minutes from March 8th, 2022 – 7 pm

WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS

ROLL CALL

Members

Brent Green – East Allen Township
Bob Mills – East Allen Township
Chris Cruz – East Allen Township
Vicky Roth – Hanover Township
Mark Thomas – Hanover Township
Pete Paone – North Catasauqua Borough
Mayor Anthony Pristash – Northampton Borough

Others in Attendance

Victor Rodite – Northampton Borough
Georgiann Hunsicker – East Allen Township
George Hillenbrand
Jill Seitz – LVPC
Brad Stewart – LVPC
Teresa Mackey – LVPC
Dean Severson – LVPC

MINUTES – January 11th, 2022

The committee reviews the prior meeting minutes. No changes were made.

FARMERS AND FARMERS MARKETS ROUND TABLE SUMMARY

Jill Seitz provides an overview of the Farmers and Farmers Markets Round Table held February 8th. The event was well attended and resulted in productive discussion that will help develop farming-related policies and actions in the plan. Steering Committee members that attended the Round Table agreed that it was a very good discussion. Key takeaways included:

- Financial – Farmers are concerned about the future financial security of farming, though all said they see themselves and their families continuing to farm in the future
- Marketing – Farmers identified a need for assistance in promoting farms and farm products that sell direct to consumers
- Zoning – Farmers mentioned the need to be cautious when it comes to the limitations zoning can place on farmland, in the interest of future flexibility and financial security

DATA MAPS – PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Jill Seitz, Brad Stewart and Teresa Mackey review several data maps that are key to develop the plan's policies and actions. The LVPC team presented maps of floodplains, Natural Heritage Inventory, the *FutureLV* Natural Resources Plan, Agricultural Areas, Land Cover, Residential Types, Residential Structures by their Year Built, Historic Resources, Parks, Multimodal (sidewalks, bus routes, trails), Average Daily Traffic and Truck Traffic, the River Central Draft Centers and Corridors Plan and the *FutureLV* General Land Use Plan.

Throughout the presentation, the Steering Committee asked questions and provided feedback as to the accuracy and completeness of the maps. Ultimately, these data maps will be used to inform the LVPC team in drafting the plan content and are building blocks for the maps that will go in the plan: Future Land Use, Centers & Corridors, Natural Resources, Farmland Preservation and Parks & Recreation. The maps will be distributed to the Steering Committee for review and comment to ensure they align with the conditions observed locally.

DRAFT CENTERS AND CORRIDORS FEEDBACK

Jill Seitz reminds the Steering Committee that the Draft Centers and Corridors map and related land use information has been distributed, and requests any comments or feedback be sent to LVPC by Friday, March 18 so the team can begin using the map to draft transportation-related content in the plan.

PROJECT SCHEDULE STATUS

Jill Seitz reviews the project schedule status. In April, the Emergency Management Services Round Table will take the place of the regularly scheduled Steering Committee meeting on April 12 at 7:00 PM. The Economy and Economic Develop Round Table will also take place in April, with a date to be determined.

CLOSING REMARKS + ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourns.

Submitted by:
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission