

SOUTH STRABANE TOWNSHIP
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

March 13, 2017

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

The March 13, 2017 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee (Committee) of South Strabane Township came to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Mae C. Reynolds Meeting Room of the Municipal Building (550 Washington Road).

The following were present:

Steering Committee: David Fisher (Resident)
Jack Keisling (Supervisor)
Joseph Kopko, (Planning Commission)
Cynthia Rossi (Resident)
Thomas Steele (Planning Commission)
James Stewart (Zoning Hearing Board)
Robert Weber (Supervisor)
William Ursic (Resident)

Absent: Dan Reitz (Resident)

Also Present: Dennis Puko (Planner with the DCED)
Michael Sherrieb (Township Engineer with KLH)
Brandon Stanick (Township Manager)
Carolyn Yagle (Planning Consultant with EPD)

Committee Members introduced themselves to the group.

Mr. Weber introduced Dennis Puko, Planner with the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), to provide an overview of comprehensive land use planning. Mr. Puko noted planning is the time to aspire and prepare for action. Issues identified in comprehensive plans need to be supported with common sense. He stated that current day planning is issue driven and emphasized the Committee should frame the issues in the way the community thinks about the issues.

A discussion concerning public participation ensued. The Committee explored various ways to engage the public throughout this process.

Comments from the Committee's discussion included:

- How do we make South Strabane Township more attractive for new people;

- How do we find what corporations and retailers have planned;
- The Township is fortunate for its location;
- What physical or environmental element identifies the Township;
- Which areas of the Township are underserved by infrastructure;
- Identify priority areas to improve water quality and/or quantity that may have been impacted by mining, etc.; and
- Identify the pipelines that run through the Township and the impact they have on future development.

Mr. Puko stated the DCED has staff and informational resources in place that can be utilized by the Township throughout the process.

The Committee reached a consensus to submit the plan for the Board of Supervisors' consideration before the end of the year.

Ms. Yagle suggested using Community Day (June 3rd) to solicit feedback from the public on the issues and opportunities identified by the Committee. A discussion concerning public feedback on the plan ensued and the possibility of holding neighborhood meetings and attending a PTA meeting at East Elementary School were noted as a possible strategies.

Ms. Yagle asked the Committee to identify any issues and opportunities for the Township on the materials provided. She advised the group will review the Committee's comments at the next meeting.

The Committee confirmed it will meet every second and fourth Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

As no further business came before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon J. Stanick
Township Manager