

**WEST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Minutes of the First meeting of February

February 6, 2018

Members Present

Anita Nardone, Vice Chairman
Jeff Glisson
Mark Gordon
Rajesh Kumbhardare
Glenn Marshall
Raymond McKeeman

Township Personnel Present

Mimi Gleason, Township Manager
Michele Moll, Township Supervisor
Justin Smiley, Township Planner
John Weller, Director of Planning & Zoning
Ted Otteni, Public Works Director

Members not Present

Andy Wright, Chairman

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman, Anita Nardone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes for the meeting of January 16, 2018.
(Gordon/Marshall)

ACTION: Passed, 6-0

III. PLANS

No Plans

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Township Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan

Justin Smiley reviewed the work to date on the Township Bike and Pedestrian Plan, noting the overall purpose and contents of the Plan, which is to create a comprehensive network of trails and sidewalks for non-motorized use that links places of interest within the community. The Plan will identify projects needed to complete the network and suggest the most appropriate parties for construction. Mr. Smiley reviewed pertinent demographic information and explained how the system would fit into the regional bicycle network, known as the Philadelphia Circuit. Mr. Smiley recommended giving priority to projects that would establish a series of concentric loops around the Exton crossroads, noting significant portions of this network were already in place or under construction. For most of the meeting, the Commission and meeting attendees discussed and prioritized projects identified at previous meetings. The following items were also discussed:

- There was discussion on the following specific projects: proposed trail linking the proposed Boy Scouts of America facility to the Chester Valley Trail via Commerce Dr.; making various intersections more pedestrian-friendly, including the Pottstown Pk./Exton Square Pkwy. Intersection (near the Hanover project), the Iron Lake Blvd./Lincoln Hwy. intersection (main south entrance to Exton Square), the Commerce Dr./Pottstown Pk. intersection, and the intersection of the access drives to the Whiteland Towne Center and ALDI with Lincoln Hwy.; and the connection of the Chester Valley Trail to Exton train station now under construction. Mr. Smiley stated that Staff will review

the high-priority projects to identify assets and constraints, cost estimates, land ownership, and the parties best-suited to fund and manage construction.

- The Plan will be an amendment to the Township Comprehensive Plan and the improvements it recommends will be added to the Township Official Map. The Plan and map will provide guidance during the land development review process, particularly when applicants request waivers from the sidewalk requirement. The Plan will show whether or not such a waiver would be consistent with Township policy and, if so, where a developer could provide a sidewalk or trail in lieu of the contribution to the sidewalk fund that would otherwise be required. The Plan would also provide documentation of Township policy should the Township ever apply for a grant or other assistance to construct sidewalks or trails.
- Mr. Smiley said that there would be opportunities for public participation through a public survey and a special public meeting. The public survey will be on Township website with links to social media sites for Township residents. A hard-copy version will be available at the Township building and the Exton Library. Additionally, brochures asking for survey participation will also be available at select locations within the Township (i.e. Trailheads). Details of the survey for Commission review and comment will be provided at a future meeting.

Mr. Smiley provided a draft timeline of proposed dates for the public survey, the first public meeting, and plan adoption. It was noted that having the meeting after survey would be a good way to publicize the survey responses and get additional input.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Weller noted the plans on the agenda for the next meeting and stated that he would provide the Commission members with copies of the 2017 annual report for their review. Mr. Weller and Ms Gleason reported on their recent meeting with PREIT regarding future plans for Exton Square shopping center.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. (McKeeman/Kumbhardare)

ACTION: Passed, 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:50 p.m.

Recording Secretary,



John R. Weller, AICP
Director of Planning & Zoning