

WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Minutes of September 18, 2014

The regular meeting of the West Hempfield Township Planning Commission was held at the Township Municipal Office, 3401 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, September 18, 2014. Chairman Ron Beam called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members Larry Groff and Alice Yoder were present. Also in attendance were Ron L. Youtz, Township Manager; Benton G. Webber, Township Engineer, Jodi Heffner, Zoning Officer and Maria K. McDonald, Recording Secretary, and Dean Severson of Lancaster County Planning Commission.

I. Minutes

Members reviewed the minutes of the July 17, 2014 meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Groff, seconded by Mrs. Yoder, to approve the minutes of July 17, 2014. **Carried 3-0.**

II. Communications

Chairman Beam asked if there were any communications and there were none.

III. Briefing Items

A. Eagles View Phase 5 – WHTPC 14-09

Final Subdivision Plan

Location: Golden Eagle Way

Eagles View Phase 5 Final Subdivision Plan was presented to the members as a briefing item. The subdivision plan proposes the last phase of the development for Eagles View, which consists of 12 single family detached dwelling lots located on Golden Eagle Way. The storm water has been addressed and roads have already been established with the first four phases of the development.

IV. Agenda Items

A. Presentation-Community Walk Audit by Lighten Up Lancaster County

Mr. Ben Craddock of Lancaster Civil Engineering and also acting on behalf of Lancaster General Hospital and Lighten Up Lancaster County, explained to the members that a Walkability Audit enables a community to analyze how walkable their communities are. The audit also provides education, inspiration, and practical planning guidance for future planning, development and construction activity that may occur within the walk audit area. Walking improves fitness, contributes towards cleaner air, reduces risks of certain health problems, and promotes a greater appreciation for a community. Audits are a key planning tool that provide communities with the assistance necessary to access walking and biking conditions and also might help with creating a plan for improving them. On average, home values are increased in walkable communities. And, with the proper design, communities will see an increase in commerce for local businesses.

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Mr. Craddock further indicated to the members that all his time has been voluntary for the Walkability Audits. Once the decision is made by the Township to perform an audit, then the route for the walk would need to be determined ahead of time and also the date and time. Then the recruitment of individuals that would partake in the audit should be done and once the audit is completed the results would be compiled and some recommendations or help to develop a plan would be given for improvements.

Mr. Youtz indicated to the members that the Board of Supervisors had discussed this at their September meeting and did embrace the concept and wanting to explore it more. Also an article, with the help of Mrs. Yoder and her staff, was compiled and will be published in the Township Fall Newsletter regarding the Walkability Audit. The newsletter will be going out to the residents in the beginning of October.

The Members and Township Staff along with Mr. Craddock had a discussion regarding the issue that they had wanted to do a team building project with the community, which possibly could be accomplished with the Walkability Audit in the Township. The conclusion was to wait and see if there is any feedback or interest from the residents from the Walkability Audit article in the Township Fall Newsletter, which in turn will determine if they will pursue this further and meet in the fall.

V. The next regular meeting will be held on October 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

VI. Adjournment

Chairman Beam called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Groff, seconded by Mrs. Yoder, to adjourn the meeting. **Carried 3-0.**

Chairman Beam adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Yoder
Secretary