



COUNTY OF ERIE

Erie County Planning Commission

Erie County Courthouse
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Mark J. Corey
Chairman

Gerry Dahl
Vice-Chairman

**ERIE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

August 14th, 2008

A meeting of the Erie County Planning Commission was held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 14th, 2008 in the **Admiral Room** at the **Raymond M. Blasco Memorial Library**, 160 East Front Street, Erie PA.

Those in attendance were:	Representing:
Mark Corey	Girard Borough (Chair, Exec. Board)
Gerry Dahl	City of Corry (Vice-Chair, Exec. Board)
Charles Casey	City of Erie (Exec. Board)
Carol Loll	County Council (Exec. Board)
Jan Cornwell	County of Erie (Exec. Board)
Eric Legenzoff	Elk Creek Township (Exec. Board)
Joseph Legnasky	Lake City Borough (Exec. Board)
Jim Cardman	Fairview Township
Paul Pangratz	Girard Township
Patricia Pfadt	Venango Township
Jake Welsh	Erie County Planning Department
John McGranor	Erie County Planning Department
Mat Elwell	Erie County Planning Department
Tom Graney	GCCA consultants

Executive Board members present – 7 of 9; quorum attained

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mark Corey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No public comments were heard.

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 12, 2008 MINUTES

A motion was made by Charles Casey and seconded by Jan Cornwell to approve the June 12th, 2008 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Erie County Recycling Program Activities

Carol Loll mentioned that there was a lot of positive feedback on the first Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event (the first in over 4 years) held August 9th at General McLane High School. It was run very smoothly, with very little waiting for the people participating. The County's recycling coordinator, Don Blakesley, was commended for his efforts in organizing the event.

NEW BUSINESS

Erie County Housing Plan update

A presentation of the Housing Plan update was provided by Tom Graney of GCCA consultants; who prepared the plan in conjunction with the Department of Planning. Tom highlighted various aspects of the plan, and discussed the County's current housing characteristics, the housing market, affordability of housing in Erie, and the projected needs and recommendations. An executive summary of the plan was distributed and it was noted that the entire report is available on the planning department website: www.eriecountyplanning.org

Jake thanked Tom for his efforts in preparing the plan, and also recognized John McGranor of the ECDP staff for his involvement in the final editing and preparing additional language for inclusion in the final draft, including the executive summary.

Erie County Transportation Plan update

Jake Welsh stated that a countywide transportation plan is prepared and adopted every four years by the Erie MPO, which is a federally designated planning body responsible for transportation planning in the Erie metropolitan area, and mentioned that several members of the ECPC participate and/or are voting members of the MPO. Jake then provided a brief overview of the current transportation plan recently adopted by the MPO, highlighting some of the characteristics of the county's transportation system, the trends and impacts affecting transportation, and the results needs and recommendations. An executive summary of the plan was distributed and it was noted that the entire report is available on the planning department website: www.eriecountyplanning.org

Jake asked the ECPC to consider recommending both the housing and transportation plan documents to Erie County Council for approval and adoption as updated elements of the Erie County Comprehensive Plan. A motion was made by Gerry Dahl and seconded by Joseph Legnasky to approve the documents. The motion was approved unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

ECDP Status Report

It was noted that the monthly status report was mailed out with the ECPC meeting notice and minutes, and members were asked for any comments/questions. Jake Welsh briefly highlighted various ongoing activities.

Municipal Report

Gerry Dahl mentioned that several communities including Corry were continuing to move forward with developing a regional Main Street and Elm Street Program, and that a regional coordinator would be used to manage the Program for the communities.

Hot Topic

Members were asked to consider issues to be raised at upcoming meetings as a hot topic.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Note: The next ECPC meeting will be on **Thursday, September 11, 2008**.