



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**

October 8, 2008

A meeting of the Erie County Planning Commission was held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, October 8, 2008 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)
Joseph Legnasky	Lake City Borough (Exec. Board)
Joseph Giles	County Council
Paul Pangratz	Girard Township
Patricia Pfadt	Venango Township
Laura Breon	Waterford Borough
Jake Welsh	Erie County Planning Department
Eric Randall	Erie County Planning Department

Executive Board members present – 6 of 9; quorum attained

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mark Corey called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No public comments were heard.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2008 MINUTES

A motion was made by Jan Cornwell and seconded by Joe Legnasky to approve the September 11th, 2008 minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Waterford Borough Drop-Off Recycling Site

Laura Breon from Waterford Borough reported that the drop-off recycling site located in the Borough appeared to be running more smoothly recently, with much less problems with the cleanliness of the area and overflowing bins. Jake Welsh indicated that the Erie County Recycling Coordinator Don Blakesley was contacted regarding the past problems at the site, and had contacted World Resources to work out their pick-up schedule at the location. Laura mentioned there is still occasionally overflowing recycling bins, but the collection schedule seemed to be more consistent.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation: County Geographic Information System (GIS) and Imagery Data - Availability for Erie County Municipalities

Erie County GIS Administrator Eric Randall provided a presentation to the Commission regarding the County's GIS efforts and data availability. Eric discussed the uses of the data for several of the County's departments, including planning, assessment, and public safety, and also how the information may be utilized by municipalities. He described the various features contained in the GIS database, what information is/will be made available, and methods of viewing/accessing the data. Eric also described the web application being developed for viewing the GIS features. Discussion followed regarding various aspects of the uses of this information. Jan Cornwell commended Eric for his work.

B. Proposed projects for FY 2009 CDBG funding

Jake Welsh distributed a handout describing the eligible applications for CDBG funding that have been received and qualified. There was discussion regarding the low number of applications that qualified versus the number submitted, and the methods and requirements for qualification. It was noted that the complete applications are being sent to the ECPC members for their review prior to the November meeting. The sponsors will present the projects and they will be prioritized for funding at the November ECPC meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jake Welsh reported on attending a lecture on the increasing demands on maintaining the Country's infrastructure. Transportation infrastructure maintenance needs are extreme and there is just not enough money available or dedicated to meet the demand. Other infrastructure funding needs are also increasing including sewer, water and stormwater systems, and current funding is not adequate to meet those needs, either. This issue is becoming more prevalent and will need to be addressed in the very near future on a Federal and state level to assist municipalities in affording to maintain their systems.

Lakeview Landfill expansion – Members discussed the status of the expansion project. Jake stated that the PA DEP has hosted meetings at Summit Township to receive input and present the permitting process. Discussion followed regarding the landfill capacity, how materials are collected and sorted at the facility, and related recycling topics.

Nominating Committee for Election of Officers – Mark Corey noted that Gary Dahl and Joe Legnasky have agreed to serve on the nominating committee, and that Eric Legenzoff would be contacted to serve, as well. The committee report nominating executive board members and officers will be presented at the February 2009 ECPC meeting.

County Budget – Members questioned how the 2009 County budgeting process was progressing and how it has affected the planning department. Jake Welsh stated that a clerical position that is currently vacant was not going to be filled, and that would result in cost savings to the County. It was noted that the position was being considered for elimination prior to the budgeting process, and an evaluation determined it wouldn't have a negative impact on the delivery of services. No planning department services or functions are being reduced. Councilman Giles noted that the County is utilizing new computer software in preparing and reviewing the budget that is much more efficient and user-friendly, and that information will be viewable online for the entire county. Discussion followed regarding various budget related issues.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.