NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
3256 LEVANS ROAD, COPLAY, PA 18037

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2022

Hybrid Meeting brought to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag at 7:00 p.m., on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 by Chairman Brian Horwith

Attendance:

Chairman Brian Horwith
Vice Chairman Robert Korp
Attorney Lisa Young-**ZOOM**
Supervisor Al Geosits
Township Manager Chris Garges
Township Zoning Officer Jeff Mouer
Judy Goldstein; Gilmore & Associates
Secretary Leonard Nuss
Richard Semmel
John Barto
Jeff Johnson
Richard Fuller
Planning Secretary Jane Kelly
Stacey Yoder; Gilmore & Associates

North Whitehall Township Comprehensive Plan Review & Discussion.

- Future Land Use Plan and Action Plan were reviewed, comments and edits made from the Planning Commission members and the residents.
- **Township Solicitor Lisa Young** reminded the residents the Comprehensive Plan is not enforceable, the Zoning Ordinance is enforceable.
- **Jeanene Bauer, 3216 Jordan Rd, Orefield, 18069**, stated many residents were upset with the Future land use map, particularly in the Jordan Rd area.
- **Karen Komlos, 3211 Jordan Rd, Orefield, 18069** questioned if an overlay of the existing and proposed maps could be done to help everyone understand what is proposed.
- **Planning Commission Vice Chairman Bob Korp** informed the residents the Planning Commission was only focusing on the text at this evening's meeting. The Future land use map will be a much longer discussion at the next Comprehensive Planning Commission meeting.
- There was a suggested text change to the commercial future land use category; adding Route 145 and deleting the intersection of Mauch Chunk Rd and Cedar Crest Blvd. The majority of the Planning Commission members did not agree with deleting the intersection of Mauch Chunk Rd & Cedar Crest Blvd, that intersection will stay in the commercial future land use category and Route 145 will be added.
- **Jeanene Bauer, 3216 Jordan Rd, Orefield, 18069**, stated she would like prisons and mental health facilities to be excluded from the future land use map. **Township Solicitor Lisa Young** stated legally cannot be done.
- **Jedd Komlos, 5270 Creekview Rd, Orefield, 18069**, questioned welcoming more industrial in the industrial future land use category when North Whitehall Township roads cannot handle the traffic it has now. **Township Manager Chris Garges** stated traffic is all uses, not just industrial. Jedd also requested adding protection for the Jordan Creek. Judy Gilmore stated there is protection for all waterbeds, not naming one specifically.
- Solar, Geothermal and other energy sources will be added to the action plan at a high priority.

Any other items that may be discussed at the discretion of the Planning Commission

- **Jeanene Bauer, 3216 Jordan Rd, Orefield, 18069**, questioned the Jordan Greenway and what is the progression with this project? **Township Manager Chris Garges** stated the Greenway is in its various stages of built, being built or planned in South Whitehall up to North Whitehall and is a working project.
- The next Comprehensive Plan meeting will be Tuesday April 19, 2022 at 7pm.

Jeff Johnson motioned to adjourn, John Barto seconded, all others agreed

Meeting Adjourned: 9:55pm.
Jane K. Kelly
Planning/Recording Secretary
North Whitehall Township