

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 23, 2017

Present: B. Dannaker, J. Mills, D. Gallo, M. Edwards

Excused:

Staff: Vana Dainty

Guests:

Election of Officers

- D.G made motion to nominate current officers M. Edwards Second the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. B. Dannaker is the Chair and J. Mills is the Vice-Chair.

Call to Order

- Mr. Dannaker called the Bellefonte Borough Planning Commission meeting to order on Monday, January 23, 2017, at 5:00 PM.

Approval of the Minutes

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Land Development Activities

- J. Mills made a motion to approve the Preliminary Subdivision Plan. D. Gallo seconded the motion. D. Gallo recommended getting a legal document about the encroachment from the property on the East side of the property, It was determined an easement between Fortney and Smith would be enough. A voice vote was unanimous. They will write something up about the easement and attend the February 27, 2017 Planning Commission meeting.

Planning & Zoning Issues

- None.

Old Business

- Wireless antennas in public places. Bellefonte has had inquiries about putting these up and other municipalities in the County have had issues with them. Ms. Dainty said a lot of them are very tall. They want to put one on top of a light pole in the Historic District in the middle of the downtown area. They didn't get past HARB, but if they get their way then HARB's regulations won't come in to play because there will be no regulating them. They are trying to get a bill passed that would allow them to install them in any public right-of-way and they are trying to get away with the municipality's right to zone them out. Currently there is a height limit. It states antennas can be no taller than 15' above the existing structure. Currently if someone would want to install a free standing antenna there would be setback requirements, but what they are trying to do is to get the setbacks removed. D. Gallo reminded that all utility poles are the property of West Penn Power.

This company is trying to do away with any zoning laws that municipalities have through legislation. Council wrote letters to Senator Corman and Representative Benninghoff asking them not to pass the legislation. If it is passed it would make the zoning of municipalities invalid. D. Gallo feels since the Borough has zoning in place it could pursue a legal battle if this legislation went in to place.

They are trying to get something at the "Y" in Zion in the right-of-way at the bad intersection.

- Innovation Zone for Central Business District –

- At the Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission meeting they have been working on an Economic Development Plan for the Nittany Valley Planning Area, which is basically all the Bellefonte Area School District. P.C. members are asked to review it and see if there is anything they have comments or questions on.

New Business

- None.

Information Items

- None.

Adjournment

- D. Gallo made a motion was made to adjourn the January 23, 2017 meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Planning Commission at 5:25 PM. J. Mills seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.