The Highland Township Planning Commission met on Monday February 3, 2020.

John Theilacker of the Brandywine Conservancy addressed the group regarding the Scope of Work for the Comprehensive Plan update and also the application for a Vision Partnership Program Grant from the County.

He, KC Kulp, and Bill Beers are scheduled to meet with Susan Elks of the CCPC on Feb. 10. He is requesting a Letter of Commitment from the BOS committing to funds. The Township would pay the total upfront then be reimbursed for approximately 70% by the grant. He is estimating the total cost to be around $30,000.

In regards to the new Comprehensive Plan, he is proposing that chapter 1 would combine current chapters 1 – 3, then new chapters 2 – 9 would be established, along with a book of appendices. He is also proposing a Task Force to include Township PC members, residents, and at least one of the Supervisors.

Judy Noyales asked what would be achieved by Community Visioning vs a Community Values Survey. Visioning is more in-depth as residents could state their concerns not just respond to the options given on a survey. Perhaps starting with a survey would be good, then determine if visioning would be beneficial.

Bill commented that transportation issues are roads that are getting heavy truck traffic on bridges that are posted but ignored. KC asked about road safety issues, such as dangerous intersections.

KC, Bill and Don Mancini saw no need for revision of proposal. KC asked how many other townships are in the running for grant funds? John thought perhaps 4 or 5.

It was suggested that we send out a postcard with a URL for the survey and perhaps have a social media account set up.

There was a question about climate resiliency, it was stated that Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission has a lot of info. On their website about that.

TASK FORCE MEETING:

PC members present: KC Kulp, Judy Noyales, Doug Lapp, Dean Davis, Bill Beers, in addition the following township residents were in attendance: Dave Blank, Cameron Stoltzfus, Tyler Lantz, Andy Engle, and Ryan Plachetti

Chapters 4 & 5 were reviewed, with needed changes noted by Chairman Kulp. The issue of drip irrigation was discussed as a possible concern. Currently, the township may only have 2 individuals irrigating but it should be of concern as irrigation draws a lot of water which could be a problem for everyone if more irrigation happens. It was suggested we get a copy of the current Ag. Security Map for reference.

Next month, chapters 6 -8 will be covered, as well as the survey in the back of the book.

PC MEETING:

Chairman Kulp called the meeting to order at 8:45 pm. The minutes of the January meeting were read. Judy asked if we had motioned to retain Don Mancini in the January meeting. It was not in the minutes. Judy motioned to approve the minutes, Doug Lapp seconded, all were in favor.

Doug motioned to retain Don Mancini as legal counsel, Dean seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Old Business – none

New Business – none

Public comment – none

Judy Noyales motioned to adjourn the meeting, Doug Lapp seconded, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Davis, Secretary