

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
January 28, 2019 – 4:30 p.m.
Two Chatham Center • Suite 400 • 112 Washington Place • Pittsburgh, PA 15219

The one hundred thirty-third meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission was called to order by Chairman Larry Maggi.

Members present: Darin Alviano, Tony Amadio, Chuck Anderson, Alan Blahovec, Kevin Boozel, Scott Bricker, Tom Ceraso, Gina Cerilli, Dave Coder, Steve Craig, Sandie Egley, Rich Fitzgerald, Jim Gagliano, Kimberly Geyer, Mark Gordon, Kelly Gray, Lynn Heckman, Mark Hilliard, Charles Jones, Fred Junko, Jessica Walls-Lavelle, Clifford Levine, Dave Lohr, Larry Maggi, Amy McKinney, Leslie Osche, Scott Putnam, Johnna Pro, Rodney Ruddock, Aurora Sharrard, Byron Stauffer, Archie Trader, Blair Zimmerman, and Christopher Wheat (via phone).

Others present: Ann Ogoreuc, Allegheny County.

Staff: Jim Hassinger, Dan Alwine, Kirk Brethauer, Dom D’Andrea, Ryan Gordon, Chuck Imbrogno, Claire Jordy, Tom Klevan, Vince Massaro, Shannon O’Connell, Dee Pamplin, Abby Stark, Kay Tomko, Lew Villotti, and Andy Waple.

1. Chairman Maggi called to order the January 28, 2019 meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
 - a. Quorum – There being a quorum present the meeting proceeded
 - b. Any Conflict of Interest Declarations on Action Items – None.
2. Action on Minutes of the December 10, 2018 Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2018 meeting by Commissioner Chuck Anderson which was seconded by Rich Fitzgerald. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

3. Public Comment – None
4. Staff Profile – Lew Villotti/Claire Jordy

Mr. Villotti introduced Ms. Clare Jordy as the new Water Resource Planner at SPC.

Claire was born and raised in Taos, New Mexico. She attended Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA and graduated in 2017 with a B. A. in Environmental Studies. It was a major in interdisciplinary studies so she took a lot of hard and social sciences. She worked at the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring; which is a part of Dickinson College working to train citizens on citizen science monitoring; water quality monitoring done by citizens. Her first year there as a K-12 she educator created curriculum, worked with teachers and also taught the curriculum. During my second year, she did research and workshops training people on water quality monitoring to look for impacts from fracking. That is how she got interested in water quality and got a lot of skills testing water quality. After her junior year in college, she interned at the Community Harvest Project in Harvard, MA. She was the orchard intern working in the vegetable garden and apple orchard helping to take care of 3,000 trees on 75 acres. She learned a lot about food justice and apples which is a passion of mine. After graduating college, she worked in Knoxville, TN and

worked at AmeriCorps in the Knox County Government's Stormwater Department. Her main role was data and GIS collection which is where she became interested in water quality.

Outside of work her main interests are animals, community, and nature where she engages with friends or by volunteering or at home with her cat.

Her work at SPC consists of community assistance, planning and attending holistic floodplain management workshops, and developing educational materials for the website municipalities on water treatments.

Chairman Maggi introduced and welcomed two new members to the Commission. From the Governor's office is Jessica Walls-Lavelle and from Indiana County Mark Hilliard.

5. Financial Report – Vince Massaro

Mr. Massaro reported on the financials for the period July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 a six month period which is the adopted updated budget. It reflects the operations of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and the Corporation. The total project revenues \$13,211.770 actual encumbered revenues to date versus the budget of \$8,124,000 or 61.50% of the budget recorded to date. Being a balanced budget the expenditures also total \$13,211.770 actual encumbered to date \$8,124,000 or 61.50% of the budget. Our funding agencies, planning project grants and contracts have been fully executed and are in hand. Project expenditures have been encumbered as shown on the report. These relate to contractual costs set by signed contracts or work orders. There being no questions, the Commission accepted the financial report as presented.

6. Annual Report Presentation – Shannon O'Connell

Ms. O'Connell explained this video presentation of SPC's 2018 Annual Report that it is much more to the point about the achievements and milestones and it is much shorter than previous reports. There is also a written report in today's handout and it will be on our website.

7. Long-Range Plan Update – Andy Waple/Lew Villotti

Mr. Waple reaffirmed the fact that the Plan update has been ongoing for almost a year; and we will be culminating everything in June of 2019 with the Plan adoption. At the end of the presentation we will ask for your endorsement of the vision goals, and strategy to drive the long Range Plan.

A recap of where we stand, and what we have left to accomplish before the June 24th Plan adoption. At our last meeting on December 10th we launched a strategy priority survey aimed at gathering feedback on the strategies as to the regions priorities within the set of 24 important strategies goals and vision. We are half way through our Long Range Plan Development Plan Workshops with the member Counties, City of Pittsburgh, Transit Providers, TMAs, PennDOT and SPC. We gathered the candidate projects and discussed public input gathered thus far in the long range plan planning process. After one more round of meetings we hope to gather consensus on the list of projects to be included in the Plan.

Mr. Waple reviewed the Vision and three Goals of the Plan - Connected Mobility, Resilient Communities, and a Globally Competitive Economy.

Mr Waple discussed the 10 Federal Planning Factors, which with the Vision, Goals and Strategies form the underlying objectives for the entire MPO planning process. Mr. Waple pointed out that planning factors are consistent with the proposed Vision, Goal Area and Strategies that we are asking you to endorse today.

In many cases the Strategies, Vision and Goals build upon and enhance the federal planning factors.

Federal Planning Factors

1. Support economic vitality
2. Increase safety of the transportation system
3. Increase security of transportation system
4. Increase accessibility and mobility for people and freight
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation and improve the quality of life
6. Enhance integration and connectivity of the transportation system across and between modes
7. Promote efficient system management and operation
8. Emphasize preservation of the existing system
9. Improve resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts of surface transportation
10. Enhance travel and tourism.

Mr. Waple reviewed the public and stakeholder outreach undertaken thus far during the plan development process:

Public & Stakeholder Outreach: 14,774 points of engagement!

- Expert Resource Panels
- Surveys & Comments
- Smart Moves Webpage and Videos
- Public Meetings:
 - Regional Plan Workshop
 - PPP & Public Input Meetings
- SPC Committees
- Emails & Media
 - Email Contacts
 - Social Media
 - TV/Radio
 - Newspaper

Mr. Waple reviewed the results of the Strategy Prioritization Survey to date. The survey is aimed at gathering input as to your priorities for the refined strategies. We have received over 600 responses as of Wednesday, January 23rd. Mr. Waple discussed the slides of responses from the Commissioners and the public for each Goal area and each of their associated 8 Strategies, which depicted a tight variation between the average rankings of each strategy

- Open to Commissioners - 12/7/2018
- Open to expert panels and SPC committees – 12/17/2018
- Open to the public 1/2/2019

Mr. Waple discussed the ongoing Project Development Workgroups used to gather candidate projects from our planning partners (Member Counties, City of Pittsburgh, Transit Providers, TMAs and PennDOT) and review public comments received related to infrastructure needs. Next he discussed the project screening that will examine how well do projects and investment categories advance the vision, goals, strategies and performance metrics. Once the projects and programs are refined by the workgroups, staff will examine the projects to ensure sure they support and advance the Vision, Goals and Strategies.

Mr. Waple outlined the next steps in the Long Range Plan Process:

- Finalize Vision, Goals and Strategies for LRP
- Continue LRP Project Development Workgroups
- Screen projects based on strategies and metrics
- Air Quality Conformity and Environmental Justice Analysis
- Formal public comment period for the draft plan with public meetings
- Commission Adoption: June 2019
- Begin Plan Implementation: July 2019

Mr. Clifford Levine asked what does the rankings from the Commissioners and from the public mean? What does it mean to get a higher or lower ranking, and how is that implemented? Mr. Waple responded through the survey, we hope to get a sense from you, the Commissioners, and from the public if there are strategies that may be more important to the region and should be acted on more expeditiously. Mr. Levine asked how the strategies reflect the Vision. Mr. Villotti added the vision is here, pointing to the slide with Connected Mobility, Resilient Communities and Globally Competitive Economy. This is what all the groups told us they were looking for. At the Regional Policy Meeting today, we talked about Federal Opportunity Zones as a way of implementing the Plan in terms of programs; is that program consistent in something that we should pursue? If you look at the online Scenario Reports, they describe, in more detail, of what the Expert Resource Panels were considering and thinking about when they established these strategies.

8. Commission Action on Resolution 1-19 to Endorse the Vision, Goals, and Strategies for Smart Moves for a Changing Region, the Region's Long-Range Transportation and Development Plan;

WHEREAS, The region's Planning Directors and the Task Force laid out a planning process that allowed the region to identify the major Forces of Change that are currently impacting the region, and forces that have the potential to impact the region in the future. It focused on talking to and hearing from the region's experts on demographics, the economy, the environment, technology and funding;

WHEREAS, through the Expert Resource Panel meetings we identified areas within each of the major Forces of Change that were important to understand for their potential impact on the region. Through their continued input and through on-line surveys, those forces were refined, and draft strategies to address them were developed;

WHEREAS, in refining those strategies, the Regional Policy Advisory Committee recommended to capture the main themes in a positive vision statement which led to the *Smart Moves* Vision, Goals and Strategies;

WHEREAS, through the Commission's continued interest, feedback and suggestions, the Vision, Goals and Strategies continued to be further refined and improved to what is before the Commission today for endorsement;

WHEREAS, *Smart Moves for a Changing Region* is built upon the three fundamental goals of Connected Mobility for all, Resilient Communities, and a Globally Competitive Economy. These goals represent a shared, positive, holistic vision for the future of Southwestern Pennsylvania;

WHEREAS, through these goals, the Plan presents strategies that strive to connect the region and its residents to opportunity; and,

WHEREAS, SPC's Transportation Technical Committee and the Regional Planning Directors Committee recommend Commission endorsement of the Vision, Goals and Strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission endorses Vision, Goals, and Strategies for *Smart Moves for a Changing Region*, the region's Long-Range Transportation and Development Plan.

Commissioner Steve Craig moved to approve Resolution 1-19 and Commissioner Kevin Boozel seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

9. Committee Reports

Planning Directors' Forum
Regional Policy Advisory Committee

Mr. Villotti spoke on the Planning Directors' Forum held in the SPC Conference Center on January 14th. We discussed three things. The first thing discussed is what you have reviewed here today, and the Directors' made the recommendation to approve. The second is we had Scott Dietrich from DCED via conference call discuss with the Planning Directors the Federal Opportunity Zones. What that means and where we could have that impact our region on those opportunity zones. And finally, the Director's discussed looking at doing the sewer and water authority inventory done by Washington County. They discussed maybe having the Water Resource Center pulling some of that inventory together as a way to understand project.

Mr. Fitzgerald reported on the Southwest Partnership for Mobility. The Governor and Secretary Richards knowing that Act 44 and Act 89 are nearing the end asked the southwest and southeast to put together an advisory partnership with consultants being led by Michael Baker and KCI Technologies to figure out a way with the Turnpike Commission, PennDOT, the SPC Counties and some counties beyond SPC region, along with the Allegheny Conference, economic development groups, industry representing the City mobility to create a strategy moving forward.

10. Other Business/Announcements – Jim Hassinger

Mr. Hassinger reminded the Commission of the Legislative Reception for both state and federal representatives on February 7th at 3:00 p.m., in the SPC Conference Center, Suite 400. Because we have new faces, it was recommended that we update them about what SPC does, the status of the Plan, and give them an opportunity to tell us what their priorities are.

11. New Business – None.

12. Adjourn

Commissioner Craig moved to adjourn the meeting of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and Lynn Heckman seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted

Tony Amadio
Secretary-Treasurer