

WEST HANOVER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

7171 Allentown Blvd., Harrisburg, PA 17112

(717) 652-4841

THURSDAY, April 27, 2023

Meeting Minutes

7:00 p.m.

Staff Present: Alan Williamson

Jeff Shade

Elizabeth Bezsylko

Sharmaine Harman

Dana Mitro

Troy Truax

Kyle Miller: Absent

Richard Mula: Absent

Janet Hardman

Mike Gossert

Lee Stinnett

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Vice Chairman
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Noted by Secretary
- III. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023:**

Chairman – Mr. Williamson made the motion to select Mr. Mula. Ms. Bezsylko 2nd the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Vice Chairman – Ms. Bezsylko made the motion to select Mr. Williamson. Mr. Shade 2nd the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.

Secretary - Mr. Williamson made the motion to select Ms. Bezsylko. Mr. Shade 2nd the motion.
Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** November 17, 2022, and March 23, 2023. Mr. Williamson made the motion to table this approval of minutes until next meeting. Motion 2nd by Ms. Besylko.
Motion passed unanimously.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT - None**
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS –**
 - a. Discussion of the New Zoning Ordinance Modernization.
<https://westhanover.com/DocumentCenter/View/946>
The discussion was on items that we went over last month. Starting April 28, 2023 is the start of the 45 days of comment period. At the end of the 45- days recommendations will be made to the Planning Commission for its consideration. Planning commission will then provide direction on revisions of the draft Zoning Ordinance and its recommendation for the Board of Supervisors consideration at a public meeting. The Board of Supervisors have 90 days.
The Zoning Ordinance we have now has been since 1995. We have gone over the Comprehensive Plan which is from 2015 with due diligence. We were making sure that we were staying in our Comprehensive Plan that we adopted in 2015. The counties are required to update their Comprehensive Plan every 10 years and we as a municipality try to do the same. Mr. Gossert explained that we are in our legal rights with the Comprehensive Plan. There are changes that have happened over the last 28 years. Things need updated to meet our standard of living. We have electric cars that need to be charged there are so many other things we need to update to bring change into 2023 and above. The comments that are being sent in have been great. There is a lot of input that we may be able in include in the ordinance change. Many comments about steep slopes and riparian buffers, chickens and EPOD. They have been great,

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now you have another 45 days to send in more comments. Send them to Janet at zoning@westhanover.com, <https://westhanover.com> we will add them to our list and put them on the web site for you all to read.

Our ordinance for signs we might keep. There is still an ongoing lawsuit and 10 other cases that are pending in Federal court in this country. Planning Commission can do the sign ordinance in a separate chapter if we must wait on the pending hearings on signs.

The important thing is Planning Commission needs to make sure it is mostly finalized before going to the Board of Supervisors.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – None this time

IX. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION – None this time

X. ADJOURNMENT - Ms. Bezsylo made the motion to adjourn meeting. Mr. Shade second the motion.

Motion passed unanimously