

**Pathway to 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan
Implementation Committee Meeting
NIRPC Auditorium
January 10, 2013
Minutes**

Attendees

Alice Dahl, Bob Carnahan, Jeff Dekker, Cindy Rojas, Sergio Mendoza, Sandy O'Brien, Rich Herr, Cecile Petro, Geof Benson, George Malis, Mark Maassel, Kris Parker, Bruce Bendull, Don Parker, Sandra Rodriguez, Richard Morrisroe, Craig Phillips, David Wright, Joe Wszolek, James Snyder

Guests

Mary Foell, Craig Grabow, Jim Bartos, J. Robbins

Staff

Bill Brown, Eman Ibrahim, Kathy Luther, Jody Melton, Belinda Petroskey, Stephen Sostaric, Steve Strains, Kevin Garcia, Joe Exl, Sarah Geinosky

Welcome and Introductions

Commissioner Geof Benson chaired the meeting for Nancy Adams and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Alice Dahl and a second by Richard Morrisroe, the minutes of the October 11, 2012 meeting were approved as submitted.

Land Use Committee Report

Eman Ibrahim gave an update on the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) and the Creating Livable Centers (CLC) as a funding mechanism. These will help local communities in how to link land use and transportation using GIS. Criteria for different community types were shown. Staff is meeting with the communities to define their center boundaries. Analysis of the I-65/US 30 metro center analysis will be done with Hobart, Merrillville and Ball State's Planning Department. A list of recommended projects will be identified and a charette will then be held. Staff will meet with Michigan City on Monday to define their centers and Cedar Lake on January 31. Staff will meet with Gary, Hammond, East Chicago and Portage in the next two weeks. After all the centers are identified, the new CLC system will fund those projects.

2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan Video

Geof Benson announced the 2040 Comprehensive Regional plan won the American Planning Association's national Daniel Burnham Award. The plan video was shown. It will be taken out throughout the region to be shown to the communities. The video is on the website, YouTube and both Facebook pages.

Current Initiatives

- ❖ CRP outreach: Steve Strains reported we have visited 11 communities. Staff will present to Valparaiso. Contact Eman to schedule a visit to your community.
- ❖ Craig Grabow consulted with NIRPC on its new website. A lot of new changes are planned in 2013.

Schedule of Meetings – 2012

The 2013 schedule was listed on the agenda. The next meetings will be held on April 11, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at NIRPC. Meetings will be held the second Thursday of the month, quarterly.

Other Business

- ❖ Geof Benson introduced Jack Eskin, new transportation planner.
- ❖ The APA conference in April will hold a workshop showcasing the Marquette Plan and Lake Shore areas on April 17 with a bus tour.
- ❖ The Northwest Indiana Forum is working with ArcelorMittal on “Steel and Sand” and mobile workshops will be held from the South Loop to the Indiana Dunes State Park and back. Registration information is on the APA website.
- ❖ NIRPC was encouraged to look into the Calumet Heritage Corridor.
- ❖ The NWIPA will hold a winter rendezvous at the Hammond Marine on Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. with speakers.
- ❖ The Land Use Committee will meet on January 16 at 10 a.m.
- ❖ At the Full Commission meeting on January 17 at 9:00 a.m. new officers will be elected.
- ❖ The Welcome Ty Warner Goodbye John Swanson Reception is January 18 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- ❖ Public comments centered on the Illiana, regarding funding, air quality and congestion mitigation.
- ❖ Mitch Barloga will present on non-motorized transportation and tourism at the next meeting.

Acting Chair Benson adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Handouts and materials provided:

- Agenda Packet
- Code of Zoning Ordinances

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