

LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, May 16, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

Members & Visitors: Bushra H. Rehman, George Malis, Brian Poland, Jeff Sheridan, Nick Bellar, Tom VanderWoude, George Topoll

NIRPC Staff: Eman Ibrahim, Gabrielle Biciunas, Dominique Edwards, Carolyn Brown

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Sheridan at 10:05am.

Approval of minutes of March 21, 2018

On motion by Jeff Sheridan minutes were approved and seconded by George Malis.

Dominique Edwards presented on The 2050 Plan Vision & Goals Input

After her presentation, she asked for comments and opinions from committee members regarding the different chapters in the plan, which include: Accessible Region, Revitalized Region, United Region and Vibrant Region. The dialogue consisted of whether committee members agreed, disagreed or thought that the language of The 2050 Plan should be changed. The plan consisted of language taken from The 2040 Plan. The unanimous agreement is that more funding is needed for these projects. The next steps for The 2050 Plans is to analyze all the feedback. The public comment period ends on May 22, 2018.

Eman Ibrahim presented on The Marquette Plan

The Marquette Plan started in 2003 started by Congressman Pete Visclosky, which planned for more accessibility to the Lake Front. Phase I was completed in 2005, with plans for Illinois to Port of Indiana accessibility. Phase II was completed in 2008, with plans from Portage, Indiana to Michigan and Phase III Plan was completed in 2015, which integrated previous studies from Phase I and Phase II to make sure the same goals and strategies were included. A total of 765 people participated in the survey from surrounding communities of Hammond, Gary, Whiting, Michigan and Portage, In. The mail goal is to plan for people to have access to boats and to beaches. The Draft Report will be posted on the website for public review in about two weeks.

Communities Update

Tom VanderWoude

There is an update for a zone ordinance for business districts and historical neighborhoods, which have been zoned wrong. The codes will allow the districts to be zoned correctly and the historical buildings to keep their character. There is a public workshop at the court house (Town Hall) in Munster on Thursday, June 7, at 7pm.

Jeff Sheridan

Lowell is about 50% done with their Park Master Plan and will complete an RFP for a Downtown Master Plan.

Next meeting is Wednesday, August 22, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22am.