

LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETING  
NIRPC Dune Room  
June 6, 2019  
Minutes

*Members & Visitors:* George Topoll, Michael Barry, Nick Bellar, George Malis, Tom VanderWoude.

*NIRPC Staff:* Eman Ibrahim, Gabrielle Biciunas, Mary Thorne.

George Topoll called the meeting to order at 10:35 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion by Nick Bellar and a second by Michael Barry, the minutes of the April 4, 2019 meeting were approved.

***NIRPC Business -***

Eman Ibrahim reviewed the Land Use Committee meeting schedule, purpose and membership. The committee will meet four times per year, prior to that month's Technical Planning Committee meeting.

***Regional Planning -***

Eman Ibrahim gave an overview of the FY 2020 Unified Planning Work Program tasks for E-commerce and its future impacts and any mitigation efforts. The next task is for transit-oriented development primarily around major transit areas. Regional Development Authority Transit Development District stations boundaries are already underway along the South Shore Line and the West Lake Corridor expansion in Lake County. The Sensible Tools Handbook will be updated to be compatible with the 2017 edition of the Indiana Planning and Zoning Law and the 2050 strategies and trends in transportation and land use. Workshops will be conducted in 2020 in partnership with Purdue Extension.

Gabrielle Biciunas presented information on the possibilities of assistance from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA). OCRA has seven programs and works with local, state, and national partners to provide resources and technical assistance to aid communities in shaping and achieving their vision for community and economic development. The OCRA website is at <https://www.in.gov/ocra/>. The Northwest Indiana rep is Gerry White. Contact Gabrielle Biciunas for more information.

***Communities Update -***

Tom VanderWoude presented on the draft character-based code plan for a *Livable Munster*. This plan will rewrite the 1985 zoning ordinances and implement the 2010 municipal comprehensive plan to incorporate more mixed use and walkable districts. There will be a high level public involvement process and the code adoption is expected in July of this year.

The next meeting of the Land Use Committee will be on October 3 at 10:30 a.m.

Hearing no other business, George Topoll adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.