The New Holland Borough Planning Commission met on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: Chairman William H. Kassinger, Vice-Chairman Charles F. Kidhardt, Carl H. Hess and Joshua Stauffer. Member Donald W. Reed was absent. Also present were Planning/Recording Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Borough planning consultant Darrell Becker of ARRO Consulting and Borough resident Bruce Klaussen.

Chairman Kassinger opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Carl Hess made the motion that the Minutes of the Commission’s prior meeting of July 23, 2019, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Joshua Stauffer and passed.

Planning Secretary Fulcher reported that in discussing the Commission’s proposed minor modifications to the sign sections of the recently updated Zoning Ordinance, with Borough Solicitor Harris, a number of zoning variables were reviewed as to moving forward. The Commission’s concerns with the safety and welfare of the Borough residents as well as the protection of the viability of the downtown and its business and historic resources were a valid concern with such elements. Overall as with most zoning, court decisions can change things as well as people challenging other things related to their activities so there are no guarantees. Consultant Becker can now forward them to the county for any comments.

The members next began preliminary review and discussion of the need to review the 2008 Borough Comprehensive Plan for its 10-year update of various elements where needed or elimination of things no longer applicable.

Consultant Becker presented a brief nine item list of sections he suggests for proceeding; outlined as:

1. General review for outdated language and data
2. Figure 1—Add 2010 census data and 2020 estimate
3. Figure 2—Compare 2000 and 2010 census data
4. Figures 4 & 5—Compare 2000 and 2010 data
5. Figure 6—Update to 2010 values
6. Figure 7—Confirm land use for 2019
7. Review Goals and Objectives
8. Update maps if necessary
9. Update Implementation Plan—add/revise/delete

The members felt this was a good approach, noting that even if there were few other changes, the statistical data and maps should be updated. The members felt that the existing plan narrative review by the consultant, Planning Secretary Fulcher and members can move forward for a more thorough discussion at a Commission meeting in November.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

November 19, 2019
Date Approved