

Public Meeting notes for November 3, 2021

On November 3, 2021, Aspinwall Borough Council met for their regularly scheduled meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. One item on the agenda for that evening was an Update on the Implementable Comprehensive Plan for Aspinwall Borough.

Dave Borland, Steering Committee member and Council member introduced the presentation by explaining that the borough was undertaking planning for the future of the borough and that an important part of that planning was to engage residents and business owners in a conversation about areas of the borough that could be improved.

Jim Pashek presented a PowerPoint on the borough's white board. He identified the two stages of the planning process, the public engagement phase and the second phase, development of implementation strategies. With this presentation, we have completed the first phase of work and will begin this month in investigating solutions to issues raised in the public engagement phase.

Public engagement included meetings with a steering committee, a community-wide questionnaire, interviews with residents and other stakeholders, public meetings and the development of a website (www.aspinwallplan.com.)

Based on the feedback from all the various public input, the steering committee agreed on the following three major or key issues that this plan should address:

1. Park Improvements including those for the baseball field park, Fireman's Park and other greenspace improvements
2. Transportation and the Public Realm including street paving policy, parking issues, a better connection to Allegheny Rivertrail Park and enhancements to appearance along Freeport Road
3. Zoning and Property Maintenance issues including a code review and recommendations to improve parking issues.

Other Issues were identified through this process, and they will be identified and addressed in a less detailed manner.

Now that we have completed the first phase of this planning process, the steering committee and consulting team will begin identifying ways to address these issues by looking at best practices and other good planning principles.

President of Council, Tim McLaughlin asked if there were any questions from the audience which was standing room only for another agenda item that evening. There were none.