

**MINUTES
BUSINESS MEETING
NEW CASTLE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF LAND USE - NEW CASTLE ROOM
87 READS WAY, NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE
February 18, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

The Business Meeting of the Planning Board of New Castle County was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2019 in the New Castle Room of the Government Center Building, 87 Reads Way, Corporate Commons in New Castle, DE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Karen Peterson at 9:05 a.m.

The following Board members were present:

Leone Cahill
Jonathan Cochran
Joseph Daigle
Leah Gray
William McGlinchey
Karen Peterson
Robert Snowden
Ruth Visvardis
Kiana Williams

The following Board members were absent:

None.

The following Department of Land Use employees were present at the meeting:

Antoni Sekowski	Rich Hall
George Haggerty	Matthew Rogers

The following members of the public were in attendance:

None.

MINUTES

None.

DEFERRALS

None.

BUSINESS

Richard Hall, General Manager, made a presentation to Planning Board members regarding Department of Land Use planning accomplishments and future initiatives. One of the most significant changes in the Department has been the creation of a Comprehensive Plan division to focus on long-range planning for the County. The division also spearheads sub-area studies that will become part of the next Comprehensive Plan update. An ordinance is being drafted to add a new Article to the Unified Development Code (UDC) that will formalize the role of sub-area studies in the comprehensive planning process. Mr. Hall reviewed several departmental initiatives to encourage quality design and development in the County, ranging from proposed changes to the UDC, to the use of new tools and techniques for community outreach, to Jobs Now— an accelerated plan review process for development projects with employment opportunities.

The discussion focused on intergovernmental coordination between municipal, county, state, and regional planning agencies, current and projected growth rates in Sussex and Kent Counties, completed and future NCC sub-area studies, proposed amendments to the property maintenance code and existing challenges for its enforcement, and regulations for reforestation, redevelopment of retail centers, and housing development.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

None.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

None.

REPORT OF CHAIRPERSON

None.

OTHER BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

