



Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

Lehigh Valley Government Academy

Eric C. McAfee, AICP, LEED AP, Director of Community Planning

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) received a huge response to the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute's (PMPEI) three course offerings held throughout the fall: one in community planning in September, followed by zoning in October, and concluding with subdivision and land development in November. Each course includes two instructors from a variety of different backgrounds (planning, engineering, legal, etc.) who have received training specific to that course. The courses targeted planning commissioners, zoning hearing board members, zoning administrators, elected officials, and any others with an interest or involvement in land development and planning.

PMPEI provides a certificate of completion for each course. Individuals who attended all sessions for the three courses (Community Planning, Zoning and Subdivision) earned the Certified Citizen Planner designation from the LVPC and will be honored during the January Commission meeting. The Certified Citizen Planner Program validates participants who have achieved a comprehensive understanding of the principles of municipal planning and development. The LVPC is excited to announce the 2015 graduates of the Lehigh Valley Government Academy, completing one or more courses:

Jeffery Ayers
Gary Behler*
Leroy Bickert*
Becky Bradley
David Calhoun*
Lance Colondo
James Daley
Bill Deegan
Dawn Didra*
Diane Donaher*
Mike Donchez
David Dunbar
Mark Ernst*
Ashley Godshall*

Wanda Gruber*
Debra Harbison
Brian Harman
Hugh Harris
Don Heiney*
Clifford Hess
Ben Holland
Gabe Hurtado*
Brad Kiefer
George Kinney
Michael Lilly*
Alice Lipe
Teresa Mackey*
Matthew Malozi*

Ngozi Obi*
Vincent Quinn
Geoff Reese
Tama Rigler
Sue Rockwell*
Robert Scott*
Alene Shafnisky
Brent Stringfellow*
Anthony Tallarida
Duane Wagner
Donna Wright*
Keith Zehner*

Honorees with the Certified Citizen Planner designation should understand:

- the purpose of a comprehensive plan
- how to implement a plan through zoning, subdivision and land development regulations
- the relationship of the zoning ordinance to the comprehensive plan and the importance of consistency between the two
- zoning ordinance adoption and amendment procedures

key provisions of the PA Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) governing subdivision and land development regulation, including approving and denying plans
the three-stage procedure for reviewing subdivision and land development applications

The courses are an extension of the LVPC's commitment to bringing the latest in planning and policy to assist the Lehigh Valley's municipalities in preparation for growth and change in the future.

Moving ahead in 2016

The LVPC intends to offer the three-part course series again in the fall of 2016. Meanwhile, in the spring of this year, the LVPC will hold a course in Zoning Administration, distinct from the basic course in Zoning offered last October. This Zoning Administration course, again provided in partnership with PMPEI, will provide a more advanced exploration of how zoning officers and zoning hearing boards must administer and enforce the provisions of an existing zoning ordinance.

All classes take place at the LVPC office, and course material and refreshments are provided through the cost of each course.

Please check our website: <http://www.lvpc.org> for registration information for the following courses to be offered:

- Community Planning
- Zoning
- Subdivision and Land Development
- Zoning Administration