

Carlisle Borough Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2026 | 5:30 p.m.
Borough Hall | 53 W. South Street | Carlisle, PA 17013

Members in Attendance: Lee Winton, Vice Chair; Thomas Coolidge; David Maher; and Martin Siefering

Members not in Attendance: Mark Green; and John Werner

Borough Officials in Attendance: Jared Woolston, SCEP Director; Jim Sutter, Senior Planner; Maurita Abeln, Water Resources Director; and Jeff Bergsten, Borough Engineer

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Vice Chair Winton

1. Roll Call

2. Reorganization for 2026

Mr. Winton noted he is currently acting Chair in the absence of an elected Chair. He suggested the Planning Commission postpone the reorganization until there is a full complement of the current members in attendance. All members attending expressed their agreement with this suggestion.

The Planning Commission Reorganization for 2026 was postponed until the February 26, 2026 meeting by acclamation.

3. Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2025

Mr. Siefering moved the December 18, 2025 meeting minutes be approved as presented. Mr. Maher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments – The audience may request Commission Members address and/or discuss items not listed on the agenda. Commission members may choose, at their discretion, to address issues at a later date.

There were no Public Comments

5. Old Business

There was no Old Business

6. New Business

a. Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan – Dickinson College Jim Thorpe Center

Jason Wolfe, C.S. Davidson; Steven Bobb, Dickinson College; and Vincent Champion, Dickinson College, appeared on behalf of the Applicant. Mr. Wolfe presented an overview of the project that included the display of plans and renderings. The Applicant is proposing the construction of a new 17,960 square foot museum and office space that will serve as the home for Dickinson College's Center for the Futures of Native Peoples. The building will also feature spaces for classrooms, art exhibits, and special programming. The structure will have a footprint of 9,500 square feet and be situated in between the Weiss Arts Center and Pax Alumni & Family Center on W. High Street. The development will also include a reconfiguration of the existing internal walkway system and learning gardens on the eastern and southern side of the building. A new driveway is proposed on the southern side of the

property for ingress/egress from Church Avenue, however access will be limited to maintenance staff and small deliveries. Mr. Wolfe noted underground infiltration tanks for stormwater management would be installed at the northern and southern ends of the Property.

New lighting proposed includes four (4) light poles and 27 bollard lights. Two (2) proposed light poles will be situated along the primary pedestrian entrance on the northern side of the site. The other two (2) light poles will be on the southern side of the site, with one at the proposed driveway entrance and the other along a walkway. The bollard lights are scattered primarily along the walkways on the eastern side of the site. A photometric plan provided by the Applicant was shown that demonstrated the intensity of the lighting at the site following the construction of the proposed improvements. Upon a request from Mr. Maher, a rendering showing the site at night was displayed to better demonstrate the proposed appearance of the bollard lights.

No new off-street parking facilities are proposed, but a parking analysis was provided with the intent of showing that adequate off-site parking exists to serve the new development. Staff had previously noted to the members of the Planning Commission that the parking analysis will need to be revised. A discussion ensued regarding to parking needs of the Center. Mr. Wolfe noted the greatest parking burden would be needed for events in the building during evenings and weekends. Mr. Bobb noted the Center already exists elsewhere on campus and the parking for those employees and students is already accounted for as part of the entire campus' parking allotment. He also noted Dickinson has the ability to reserve spaces in existing lots when events occur. Mr. Siefering expressed concern that adequate Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA")-compliant parking would be available. It was noted that ADA parking should be provided near building entrances. Mr. Wolfe noted a revised parking analysis taking into account the concerns from Staff and the members of the Planning Commission would be provided well in advance of the next month's meeting.

Mr. Maher expressed his concerns regarding the lighting at the site. Mr. Bobb noted the lighting fixtures would be consistent with those present throughout the rest of the campus. Mr. Maher recommended that the Applicant consider native foliage in the landscaping. Mr. Wolfe noted that this is planned and a landscape plan was provided to Borough Staff earlier in the day. Mr. Maher advised the Applicant to be aware of any historic restrictions at the Property.

Mr. Winton moved the Planning Commission table consideration of the Plan to allow the Applicant to work through the outstanding issues with Staff. Mr. Siefering seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

7. Staff Update

Staff had no updates for the Planning Commission on any matters.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Winton moved the Planning Commission adjourn. Mr. Coolidge seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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The Planning Commission adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Sutter", is positioned above the typed name.

Jim Sutter, AICP
Senior Planner