

**MINUTES of the May18, 2021 MEETING of the Commission
(via Zoom)**

**August 16, 2021
Adopted: 9/21/21**

Members Present: Bob Booher, Gail Littlefield, Mimi Styles, Jeff McCrehan, Liaison Darrell Anderson. The meeting began at 7:30 by zoom.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

The proposed agenda was revised by deferring topics 3.2.1, 3.3.1, 3.4.1 and 3.5 and was adopted unanimously.

1.2 Adoption of Minutes

The March and April minutes were reviewed, amended and adopted.

2.1 Project Review

2.1.1 - **202 Grove Avenue – Staneck** – covered portico for the home’s entrance facing Oak Street.

2.1.2 - **206 Chestnut – Moyer** –Demolition of greenhouse attached to back of the 1-1/2-story garage; addition of stairs to access the “attic” storage area of the garage, where the greenhouse had been located. Construction of a shed on the footprint of the old greenhouse.

2.1.3 - **400 Chestnut** – Lankford – 2 PW&P permit applications: Asphalt pave the existing gravel driveway accessed from Hickory Road; Concrete walk from the home’s Chestnut Avenue entrance to the asphalt apron of the stormwater swale.

Old Business:

3.1 Bike Path Impacts Resolution:

There was discussion of the petition circulated for signatures by a group of residents requesting reconsideration of the Town Council decision in March that indicated a Town preference for one of the proposed alternatives. The decision was made prior to a Town-wide assessment of the impacts, and requested that a task force be formed to do the proper assessments. The petition secured the number of signatures to require the Town Council to act on it. Further HPC action will depend on the action taken by the TC.

3.2 Historic landscape resources:

3.2.2 Public Ways Review Criteria - Gail will develop a table/spreadsheet that indicates the specific landscape resource, the character-defining elements, the links to the National Register documents, guidelines and the actions that may impact the resource and require a Public Ways Permit. She will start with a section of Grove Avenue.

3.4 Comprehensive Plan update:

3.4.2 Archeological sites - Wendy reported that earlier in May RASEC and others asked that a section on the history of the region's indigenous people be inserted into the Comprehensive Plan. This was inspired by Ann Phillips' article on this topic. On behalf of the HPC and in order to create

something appropriate for the CP, Wendy drafted some text that addressed planning concerns (i.e. the protection of archaeological resources) that would fit in "Section 6: Sensitive Areas and Environmental Concerns." This became item "6.3.5. Archaeological Concerns and the Presence of Indigenous People" in the CP.

Wendy shared her three paragraphs for the CP plus a recommendation ("Continue to work closely in partnership with the Montgomery County Parks Archaeology Program to define, investigate and preserve the Washington Grove Steatite Quarry Site and related cultural resources").

3.6 Committee Reports

3.6.2 – Border Committee – Bob reported the progress on design and procurement of the 3 vehicular entrance signs and the measures defining the pedestrian intersections with Railroad Street and Washington Grove Lane. The HPC will partner in executing the new wooden street signs along with Susan Van Nostrand.

3.6.3 – Lighting Committee – Bob reported that members of the Committee had provided testimony in the new Pepco Rate Structure that has a program for replacing all the streetlights in Montgomery County with new modern LED fixtures. We have provided comments, along with other jurisdictions, that there is a desire for accepting our current lights that have already been converted, and that there should be a path for the Town to acquire them if Pepco ceases maintenance of them.

3.8 Bulletin Material: Mimi advised that we planned to publish the piece on indigenous people that Ann Philips had compiled with the assistance of Sarah Hedlund, MoCo Librarian/Archivist, and Heather Bouslog, MoCo Parks Archeologist as well as Wendy and Clare.

3.9 PC Meeting Report

Gail attended the May 5 PC meeting. The PC discussed its reviewing permit applications prior to HPC review and when items should be put on the agenda. The PC noted that permit applications for 202 Grove Ave, and 206 Chestnut needed more documentation. A fence application for 354 Ridge Rd was approved. There were no PWPP applications. Charlie suggested that anticipated American Rescue Plan funds could be used for getting water to Ridge Road and stormwater. Georgette reported that an addition to the CP was made to provide for possible future annexation of properties across the RR tracks. A public hearing date for the CP will be set soon. This PC meeting is Charlie Challstrom's last. His long service was recognized.

New Business:

4.1 Open Meetings Act Training: The Mayor has requested that all members of the Council, Planning Commission and the HPC go online for training in the provisions of this act.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at roughly 9:30 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 16 at 7:30pm via Zoom.

– Gail Littlefield and Bob Booher