MINUTES of the October 20, 2021, MEETING of the Commission (via Zoom)

October 20, 2021 Adopted: 12/21/21

Members Present: The meeting began at approximately 7:30 p.m. Bob Booher, Gail Littlefield, Mimi Styles, Wendy Harris, David Stopak, and Darrell Anderson. Guests included Councilmember Pat Klein and Pepco representative Alberto Zegada. Jeff McCrehan took minutes.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

The proposed agenda was revised by adding 2.1.3 project review of 208 Washington Grove Lane and 4.3 Vacant houses. The order of agenda items was revised. Amended agenda was unanimously approved.

1.2 Adoption of Minutes

July and September 2021 minutes were approved.

2.1 Project Reviews

2.1.1 Comcast - Public Ways Permit: Fiber optic cable being run from WG Lane to Roberts Oxygen. Comcast has not yet sent an application of a public ways permit to the Town but a site meeting indicated that all the recommendations previously proposed by the HPC would be met. Bob agreed to write a preliminary review of the project.

2.2.2 Pepco EV Chargers - Public Ways Permit: Bob presented a power point updated from the presentation at the October Town Council Meeting describing the Sustainability Group progress on proposed locations and design of EV chargers. He noted that we are in a climate emergency and the Town wants to participate in meeting the Paris Climate Accords. He noted the Sustainability Group is also looking at renewable electric choice vendors to Pepco and at converting from oil and propane to electric heat pumps in both Town buildings and residences. Various possible locations for the chargers were discussed along with their impacts. A council member Pat Klein noted possible zoning issues. The Town Council has requested reviews from the HPC and the Planning Commission before any action. Bob offered to draft a recommendations letter similar to what was done in advance of Comcast Public Ways Permit for review at the next meeting. There will need to be a subsequent Public Ways Review once they apply for the permit.

2.2.3 208 Washington Grove Lane: Installing new screening on the existing porch at Sharon Sisson's porch, facing WG Lane. Material was adequate for the review.

Old Business:

3.1 Joint Meeting MAHD/HPC/TC: David reported on the recent Joint MAHD/PC/HPC/TC meeting. He will distribute demolition-related documents and preservation ordinance documents and sketch out a path forward.

3.2 NR Nomination on website: Wendy reported further progress on working with Christine but has discovered that the posting on the state Medusa website does not include the maps and photographs. She will contact Peter Kurtze.

3.3 Historic landscape resources

3.3.1 List and map of resources and 3.3.2 Public Ways review criteria development: postponed

3.3.3 Archaeological resources – Wendy and Heather Bouslog (County archaeologist) have now mapped the three (and possibly a fourth) feature at the southeast end of the forested buffer. Wendy will continue this work, including meeting with Heather and a volunteer who is going to write up this undertaking. The new sites will eventually be registered in the Maryland Historical Trust's database.

3.4 Masonry restoration scope. Mimi, Bob, and Gail walked through Town to review what is needed for restoration of the various historic masonry elements; Gail is writing up a document from which an RFP can be developed.

3.5 Bike path – Wendy reported that the HPC documents have not been included or referenced as befits the HPC position in Town Government. She recommended requesting that the Task Force correct this. David and Bob had prepared a consolidated document (composed of the three previously submitted pieces) of its comments regarding the bike path. This included a viable meadow option to replace the non-viable one in the MDOT document, but not a recommendation to choose it. The motion was unanimously approved.

3.6 Changes to Architectural Survey: postponed

3.7 Committee reports: Border Committee Bob noted that the sign contract has been awarded; onworking artwork and colors. Noted work already done at walkways and entrances to the Town. Bob encouraged Peter to have an overall plan and had done an envisioning type of document to that end.

3.8 Bulletin – Mimi will be submitting a piece on contributing and non-contributing structures.

3.9 PC Meeting Report – No report.

3.10 TC report – Darrell sent a summary to the HPC. A successful presentation by Fred Statchura was discussed. Tom Land will work with the Rec Comm and the F&B to put in a Frisbee Course behind the backstop in the field. Noted Woods Committee rule proposals, saying 11 of 13 are redundant.

New Business:

4.1 Planning Commission coverage assignments – Bob will do November; Mimi- December; David-January; Gail - February; Wendy -March; Jeff - April.

4.2 Woman's Club Architecture Tour – Bob will guide this tour, keyed to new residents. Joan and Joli will be adding local color commentary.

4.3 Vacant Homes – Residents have again expressed concern over vacant houses now numbering 4. This ties into the demolition issue and we should examine the issues together.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:52 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 7:30 pm via Zoom. Bob will be absent.

- Jeff McCrehan