

**Minutes of the November 16, 2021 Meeting of the Commission
(via Zoom)**

Adopted: March 15, 2022

Members Present: The meeting began at approximately 7:30 p.m. David Stopak chaired the meeting in the absence of Bob Booher. Wendy Harris and Mimi Styles completed the quorum of HPC members. Darrell Anderson (council liaison) and Georgette Cole were present and three PEPCO representatives, Alex Zagrada, who has been the lead along with two of his associates. David Stopak took minutes.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was amended to include discussion of only two main items, the EV Station and the Bike Path and was unanimously approved.

1.2 Adoption of Minutes

No minutes were reviewed.

2.1 Project Reviews

There were no projects.

Old Business

3.1 NR Nomination on website -- No discussion

3.2 Historic landscape resources -- No discussion

3.3 Bike Path progress

The Bike Path Task Force submitted their report to Town Council on Nov. 7. HPC members found numerous factual errors in the Task Forces report. The HPC members present identified four areas where the Task Force report was factually in error, inaccurate or deficient in analysis.

1. Archeology and Parkland – the report misstated that of the three routes, Brown St had the least impact on archeological resources and parkland. In fact, the Salt Barn Route and Brown St are equivalent in this regard.
2. Historic and Environmental Impacts – the Task Force relied solely on MCDOT’s preliminary analysis on environmental impacts and did not take

into account the HPC's analysis of the different route's impact, on the Town's historic resources and character.

3. Easements --the Task Force failed to address the question of easements or conditions that MCDOT could impose on the Town to assure continued access to the Town's roads.
4. Funding and Staging – the Task Force mischaracterized the funding and staging process

HPC members Wendy Harris and David Stopak were tasked with summarizing this discussion and forwarding a final draft to the Task Force.

3.4 EV charger review

At the request of the Town Council, the HPC held a Preliminary Review of the proposed EV Stations to be installed by PEPCO. A draft review, based on discussions held in the Oct meeting, was distributed for the Nov meeting. Only minor changes were made to the main text. Discussion mainly focused on the mitigations recommended by the HPC to PEPCO. There were nine recommendations, which are listed below. Various technical objections were raised by the PEPCO representatives to recommendations 3,6,7, which are underlined. Given that the review was preliminary and the objections technical, HPC approved removing them from the report to Town Council. Recommendation 4 was modified to state that bollard design should reflect the historic character of the Town.

Recommended mitigations:

1. Screen the meter cabinet with plantings and/or fencing.
2. Pair two chargers per mounting post.
3. Minimize the size of the concrete pad to 2' x 2'. Stain it brown.
4. Modify bollards to reflect historic character of WG
5. Mount the posts in the soil adjacent to the concrete pad rather than on the pad.
6. Paint the steel mounting post the same brown color as the Hall and the other signs.
7. Consider using brackets on the post to hang/manage the cables and eliminate the 6' tall cable management masts.
8. Provide low signage in a style to match those typical of the Grove.
9. Restore all gravel surfaces, lawn and plantings to the same as found before the installation.

David Stopak was tasked with editing the draft to include the approved changes and sending this Preliminary Review to Town Council.

3.5 Changes to Architectural Survey-- No discussion

3.6 Committee reports-- No discussion

3.7 Bulletin

Material for the December edition will cover the importance of viewsheds to the Historic District, with a particular focus on the Washington Grove Meadow Conservation Park and the Piedmont Crossing Local Park.

3.8 PC Meeting Report –No discussion

3.9 TC report –No discussion

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

5.1 The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 14.