



Planning Commission Minutes

May 1, 2024

Approved June 5, 2024

meeting took place via ZOOM videoconference. In attendance were Commissioners Georgette Cole (Chair), Jonathan Dail, Sylvie Favret, Robert Johnson, Peter Nagrod (TC Liaison), Historic Preservation Commission member Mimi Styles, and resident Jeff McCrehan.

Georgette Cole called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Peter Nagrod moved to approve the agenda. Robert Johnson seconded the motion. *Approved 4-0.*

Building Permit Applications:

301 Maple Avenue (ADU): The Commission reviewed the application for an Accessory Dwelling Unit at this address. They also discussed the review written by Sung Chang. Peter Nagrod moved to approve the ADU application for 301 Maple Avenue. Jonathan seconded the motion. *Approved 5-0.*

Public Ways & Property Permits: There were none.

Public Appearances: There were none.

Approval of the Minutes – April 3, 2024: Robert Johnson moved to approve the April minutes of the Planning Commission. Jonathan Dail seconded the motion. A discussion ensued and some amendments were made. *Approved: 5-0, as amended.*

Discuss Placement of Heat Pumps and Similar Equipment: The Commission discussed how to handle a permit from Montgomery County that requires a sign-off on the placement of such equipment. It was decided that the Town would stamp and sign such permits in the following way:

**APPROVED BY
TOWN OF WASHINGTON GROVE
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Date _____

Signature _____

Discuss Forest Conservation Act Changes – PC member is needed to work on this issue: The Commission decided to do this on an as needed basis.

Commercial Corner Update: Peter Nagrod reported meetings have taken place between Town and Commercial Corner representatives. The draft architectural plans are actually pretty good. They respect the Odd Fellows Hall, add small apartments on a second floor over the post office, add more retail in back and more trees in front. Potential for a coffee shop. Parking is a possible issue. Next week they will meet with Gaithersburg representatives to discuss an easement for the Gaithersburg Shared Use Path. Peter will send out the latest Gaithersburg proposal. Peter pointed out that Bob's graphic shows where additional trees could be added and reduced impervious surfaces.

Gateway Committee: Jonathan Dail reported on the following topics:

- The walkway project on the north end of Grove Ave and 4th Ave has been completed. Both dirt and gravel were added on 4th and gravel on Grove so both are much easier to walk on.
- Road clean-up April 20 – there were (8) eight volunteers and 45 pounds of trash collected.
- Most of the volunteers then went on to help with the Lake cleanup.
- The adopt-a-road signage is up on Railroad Street but we are still waiting for the same signs on Washington Grove Lane.
- Still trying to get the old telephone pole and yew tree on WGL near PO exit removed so the area is more pedestrian friendly. Once that's done, we can figure out how to make it more attractive, perhaps with a new tree.
- Still trying to get a sign at Shady Grove Crossing cross-through.

Report from Town Council: Peter reported GREENEARTH was awarded the contract for bulk leaf collection. The Stormwater Management RFP was approved and sent out for bids. The Town budget was finalized for distribution to the Town.

Other Business: Georgette Cole reminded everyone about the Candidates forum on May 4 at 3:00 pm.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Kathryn L. Lehman, Town Clerk