



Minutes of the Planning Commission Worksession
20 November 2019

Approved:

Attendees: Commissioners Charlie Challstrom, Georgette Cole, Robert Johnson, Peter Nagrod, and Mayor John Compton (until 8:15pm), HPC commissioner Bob Booher, Woods Committee Co-Chair Joan Mahaffey, Bike Path Committee Chair Jay Everhart, and resident Donna Shriner.

Call to order 7:40 pm.

Peter moved to approve the agenda, Robert seconded.

We added a review of Section 2.1.3.

Vote 4/0.

Charlie moved to approve the minutes of 18 September, Georgette seconded. Vote 4/0.

We resumed with MP working draft 091819 (distributed 9/22/19) starting with Section 2.1.3. It covers the growth numbers in Town submitted for our annual report to the State. This section was supposed to be reviewed in May. Georgette moved approval, Peter seconded. The PC checked the numbers and agreed all was as we expected. Approved 4/0.

We reviewed a second version of language submitted by the Bike Path Committee for Section 3.4) Walkway/Bikeway Connection. Georgette moved approval, Charlie seconded. Our first draft of this section was submitted over a year ago. Recently Mayor Compton, and Jay Everhart and Barbara Raimondo (Bike Path Committee) met with Montgomery County Department of Transportation and Gaithersburg Planners. As result, a modified version was submitted by the Bikeway Committee and Mayor Compton submitted a slightly modified version of the Bikeway recommendations. Discussion ensued regarding varied opinions in Town on whether such a shared use path is desirable. It was strongly suggested the Town Council should offer a forum in order to communicate the matter more fully to residents and get a sense of the Town on the subject. The Bike Path Committee language and the Mayor's recommendations were approved 4/0.

Section 6.2.2) F&B suggests under Recommendations: Add back use of "Plant Invaders of the Mid-Atlantic" as a reference for identifying non-native invasive species.

Section 6 Sub-subsection 6.3.2) Brown Street Corridor. Modifications to this section were offered by both the HPC and the Forestry and Beautification Committee.

Section 6 Sub-subsection 6.3.3) Ridge Road Corridor. Modifications to this section were offered by the HPC.

The Section 6 material was reviewed sequentially. Charlie moved approval of the package as a whole, Peter seconded. Vote 4/0.

New Section 6 sub-section 6.4 (Historical Concerns) was submitted by the HPC. Georgette moved approval, Charlie seconded. Vote 4/0.

Material was submitted by both the HPC and the Stormwater Committee for Section 7. Georgette moved approval, Peter seconded.

In 7.1 Water Supply System, HPC observed that the section on the Ridge Road homes was out-of-date. The current material will be deleted. Charlie has volunteered to draft a new section incorporating the water stub mandated by MNCPPC as a condition of the Shady Grove Crossing Development. The process by which this source could be used to provide municipal water to the homes on lower Ridge will be included. Charlie also volunteered to follow up on the 2007 WSSC Utility-wide Master Plan to check for the most recent copy of the plan. 85% of the buried water distribution system in Washington Grove is expected to exceed its useful life by 2020. We need to know more about the current state of affairs. WSSC is doing considerable water/sewer line work at this time (2019).

It was noted that the County has a commitment in their Hazard Mitigation Plan to fight wildfires in the WG forests. This is contrary to what the local fire stations have told us and should be looked into.

Section 7.3 has been re-written by the Stormwater Committee. The HPC material was integrated into it.

Section 7 material was accepted with minor modifications, vote 4/0.

We stopped at Section 8 (Commercial Corner)

It was acknowledged the Commercial Corner needs a committee of 5-6 people to consider it and make recommendations. People who have expressed interest to date are Charlie Challstrom, Bob Booher and Ann Briggs.

HPC will look at Section 9 (Development and Preservation Strategies) at their January meeting.

The subject of Green Elements for the Master Plan came up. Peter and Georgette will look for templates or samples.

Georgette will integrate the current changes into a 112019 draft for circulation to Commissioners and posting to the Town web site before the next work session.

Adjourn 9:50 pm.

Our next meeting will be January 15.

Submitted by Georgette Cole