

AMBLER BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2020, MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Ambler Borough Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers located at 131 Rosemary Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania. Peter Amento called the meeting to order and conducted the reorganization meeting. Thereafter, the gavel was passed to Robert Lagreca as the newly-elected Chairman to begin the business.

REORGANIZATION: Peter Amento made a motion to nominate Robert Lageca for Chairman, Al Comly for Vice-Chairman and Carol Ann DiPietro for Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL: Present: David Kralle, Carissa Hazelton, Elizabeth Iovine, Carol Ann DiPietro, Salvatore Boccuti, Peter Amento, Al Comly and Robert Lagreca.

Also in attendance: Glenn Kucher, Borough Code Enforcement Officer, and Michael Lowrey, Montgomery County Planner.

William Mulroy was excused. James Dougherty, Borough Engineer was also excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Salvatore Boccuti made a motion to approve the minutes of December 18, 2019, with no corrections; seconded by Elizabeth Iovine. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Input is requested to create a conceptual plan incorporating identified community needs and improvements for each park in the Borough to be used as part of a larger Master Park Plan. A number of residents attended the meeting to voice concerns regarding the continuing use of Pickering Field as baseball fields, two of which were Mark Armstrong, 258 Highland, and Robert Cardillo, 300 Park Avenue. There are baseball diamonds that are used by Ambler Junior Baseball for a few weeks in the spring and fall. The parcel is one full block and contains 2.93 acres. It is bordered by Highland, Park, North and Trinity Avenues. The Montgomery County records show the property was transferred to the Borough 1953.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review the guidelines and recommend changes to the Borough's existing wireless ordinance and fee schedule to comply with the FCC order as well as develop design requirements for wireless facilities in the rights-of-way to prevent aesthetically obtrusive facilities. We are waiting for clarity on the new legislation. An update will

be given at the February meeting with regard to municipalities having authority to regulate design standards.

Input is requested to create a preliminary Energy Transition Plan in line with the Ambler Borough Ready for 100 Renewable Energy Resolution adopted by Borough Council March, 2019. The goal is to reduce the use of fossil fuel. Nellie DiPietro, Councilperson, presented Council's vision and expectation for the Plan at the September, 2019, Planning Commission meeting. The focus is on efficacy and sustainability. An outline for approaching the preparation of the Plan was prepared by Councilperson Nellie DiPietro and was reviewed. These are the steps to move forward with the creation of our Plan to be turned over to a consultant. Section A of the Outline will reflect chapters taken from the Comprehensive Plan Update and the Open Space Plan Update. Sections D and E were reviewed at the November meeting and Section G with regard to solar panels and electric appliances were discussed at the December, 2019, meeting. Some of the items to consider are the Community Profile including background information on Ambler, population data, bike racks and locations, natural resources, LED traffic lights, public transportation and parking. Switching to LED street lights is already in progress.

CONTINUED BUSINESS FOR THE FEBRUARY, 2020, MEETING

Update on municipalities regulating design standards for the new small wireless facilities.

Further work on the Ready for 100 Renewable Energy preliminary energy transition plan.

Further work on a conceptual plan incorporating identified community needs and improvements for each park in the Borough.

Elizabeth Iovine made a motion at 8:35 seconded by Carissa Hazelton to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Ann DiPietro
Recording Secretary,
AMBLER BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION