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

The Regular July Meeting of the Ambler Borough Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via an internet vehicle ZOOM. Consistent with Council President's and the Mayor's Declaration of Disaster Emergency executed Tuesday, April 7, 2020, this action was taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of our community and to promote our commitment to maintain social distancing in our community. The meeting was not held at Borough Hall as previously advertised. A public copy of the meeting agenda was posted on the Borough website and the public was invited to forward questions or comments to the Glenn Kucher, Code Enforcement Officer, by 5:00 p.m. this evening or request attendance at the meeting. Glenn Kucher hosted the meeting and Chairman Robert Lagreca presided. No public comments were received.

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

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

Carissa Hazelton and James Dougherty, Borough Engineer were excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Salvatore Boccuti made a motion to approve the minutes of June 23, 2020, seconded by Elizabeth Iovine. Motion carried unanimously.

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. Montgomery County review will follow at a later date.

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. For the past couple meetings we reviewed all the parks in Ambler as well as surrounding areas. The three parks that rise to the top of the discussion are Pickering Field, Knight Park and Ricciardi Park. This matter was tabled for discussion at a later date.

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. After a few months of discussion another draft of the document was presented to each Planning Commission member earlier today by e-mail. Glenn Kucher, Elizabeth Russell, Michael Lowrey and Nellie DiPietro did an excellent job in preparing this draft for review. Discussion began with the corrections, additions and changes suggested for the Plan document. Each member had reviewed a number of pages and brought these suggestions to the attention of the remaining members for discussion. After this thorough final review of the Plan, a motion was made and seconded to recommend this version of the Plan with the proposed changes, revisions and additions discussed at this meeting to Council. A letter will be prepared for Council.

The Planning Commission expressed its appreciation to Mr. Kucher for hosting the meeting on ZOOM. We recognize that additional work is necessary for him to prepare for and hold our meetings, and we thank him for his efforts.

CONTINUED BUSINESS FOR AUGUST AND FUTURE MEETINGS

Receive and review Montgomery County review letter and thereafter vote to adopt ordinance regulating design standards for the new small wireless facilities.

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

Salvatore Boccuti made a motion at 9:09 seconded by David Kralle to adjourn.

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