

AMBLER BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2021, MEETING

The Regular January Meeting of the Ambler Borough Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via 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.

Prior to this regular meeting a special public meeting began at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of public input on Ricciardi Park. The meeting was conducted by Glenn Kucher and Michael Lowrey. Approximately 10 residents made comments although many more were in attendance. Some of the comments expressed were installation of additional pickle ball courts, improve the surface of the courts, post rules and install lights, allow dogs, do not allow dogs, consider installation of outdoor fitness equipment, rain garden with educational signage, flag pole with a light for the US flag, water fountain, install bathrooms, do not install bathrooms, install traffic calming at Walker and Hendricks for safer crossing, install a path from Reiffs Mill Road, more police presence, additional lights that won't shine in windows and more multipurpose adult use. This meeting ended about 6:55 and a five-minute recess occurred before the beginning of the Regular November Meeting at 7:00.

ROLL CALL: Present: Carissa Hazelton, 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, and Michael Lowrey, Montgomery County Planner.

James Dougherty, Borough Engineer, was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Salvatore Boccuti made a motion to approve the minutes of December 22, 2020, seconded by Peter Amento. 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 Dated September 26, 2018, 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. The residents' comments made at the Public Meeting for Ricciardi Park at 6:00 were briefly acknowledged. One suggestion raised is that a spreadsheet be prepared with the public comments including those e-mailed and those raised at the actual Zoom meetings.

At the October meeting, the members created a schedule for the monthly public meetings to discuss each park. The meetings begin at 6:00 on the night of the regularly-scheduled Planning Commission meeting.

February 23, 2021: Borough Park, Edgewood Preserve, Tennis Avenue Open Space and the Tennis/Spring Garden Triangle.

March 23, 2021: Wahl, Jean Thompson, Locust Street and Ambler Square

The Planning Commission expressed its appreciation to Mr. Kucher and the Borough Staff for hosting the meeting on ZOOM and to Michael Lowrey for his research and contribution to the meeting.

Several residents were in attendance.

CONTINUED BUSINESS FOR FEBRUARY AND FUTURE MEETINGS

6:00 Public Meeting for Borough Park, Edgewood Preserve, Tennis Avenue Open Space and Tennis/Spring Garden Triangle.

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 8:00 seconded by William Mulroy to adjourn.

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