

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

The Regular October Meeting of the Ambler Borough Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers at 131 Rosemary Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania, and Chairman Robert Lagreca presided.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Anthony Giannetti, Carissa Hazelton, Elizabeth Iovine, Carol Ann DiPietro, Salvatore Boccuti, Peter Amento and Robert Lagreca. Also in attendance: Glenn Kucher, Borough Code Enforcement Officer, and Michael Lowrey, Montgomery County Planner

David Kralle and Al Comly were excused. James Dougherty, Borough Engineer, was also excused.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Salvatore Boccuti made a motion to approve the minutes of September 28, 2021, seconded by Carissa Hazelton. Motion carried unanimously.

The next two meetings for November and December of 2021 are scheduled for Tuesday, November 23, 2021, and Tuesday, December 28, 2021.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Input is requested to explore ways to preserve Ambler's historic resources.

No action was taken on any particular aspect of preservation yet. There are many ways to approach any intended preservation in Ambler. Below are initial considerations which were discussed.

1. What are we trying to achieve
  - Maintain scale and character of existing buildings
  - Guide compatible infill and new construction
  - Preserve distinctive features or materials
  - Acknowledge important places, groups, and stories
  - Encourage sensitive adaption
  - Encourage revitalization
  - Prevent or discourage demolition
  
2. What types of changes are we trying to manage?
  - Demolition
  - New Construction
  - Major Alterations
  - Features and Materials
  - Setting and Landscape
  
3. What scale are we hoping to impact?
  - Individual buildings
  - Neighborhoods and corridors
  - Both

There was discussion concerning particular properties as outlined in our Open Space and Comprehensive Plan Updates. Research should be undertaken to insure that each of the

properties has authentic history and that the location of each is correctly identified. Are we identifying a property because of age, architectural significance or its history? Before conditions and/or restrictions can be explored, initial intentions and goals need to be identified and agreed upon. We recognize that undertaking this task could result in a year or more of work.

Input 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 survey is still up and the results are expected to be tallied and ready for discussion at the November or December meeting. The suggested additions to the parks will be prioritized and cost estimates will be presented for discussion and recommendation to Council. The Borough and County tax bill has a separate line item for a millage rate to generate tax dollars to be budgeted only for improvements and maintenance of our Borough parks. We expect to discuss scheduling a public meeting to review survey results and recommendations for additions, changes and/or enhancements proposed.

### **CONTINUED BUSINESS FOR NOVEMBER AND FUTURE MEETINGS**

Further work on a conceptual plan incorporating identified community needs and improvements for each park in the Borough and proposed App for information regarding our parks for users of the park to download to assist them in using our parks to their full potential. Review survey responses.

Discussion on historic preservation intentions and goals.

Salvatore Boccuti made a motion at 8:10 seconded by Peter Amento to adjourn.

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