

AMBLER BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2022, MEETING

The Regular January Meeting of the Ambler Borough Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers at 131 Rosemary Avenue, Ambler, Pennsylvania.

ROLL CALL: Present: John Oswald, Carol Ann DiPietro, Salvatore Boccuti, Peter Amento, Al Comly and Robert Lagreca. Also in attendance: Glenn Kucher. Borough Code Enforcement Officer.

Anthony Giannetti, David Kralle, Carissa Hazelton, and James Dougherty, Borough Engineer, were excused. Also, we have not yet been assigned a new County Planner now that Michael Lowrey is no longer a member of the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

REORGANIZATION: Peter Amento made a motion to nominate Robert Lagreca for Chairman, Al Comly for Vice-Chairman, and Carol Ann DiPietro for Secretary. Motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor. Re-elected Robert Lagreca presided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Salvatore Boccuti made a motion to approve the minutes of December 28, 2021, seconded by Al Comly. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Input is requested to explore ways to preserve Ambler's historic resources. The first step which had been proposed and agreed upon at the December meeting was to contact all the owners of the properties specifically referenced in the 2013 Comprehensive Plan to suggest their attendance at this meeting. The Planning Commission members were hoping for feedback from these property owners. Many owners attended and several made comments against restrictions on their properties. Some believe their properties are not historic or deserving of historic preservation. Some comments were made by the owners of Coach Works (123 W. Butler), Henry Keasbey House (217 E. Mt Pleasant), Deck's Hardware (27 N. Main Street) and Whitcomb House (66 N. Main Street).

Some attendees' comments reminded the owners that the current proposed historic preservation is aimed at delaying demolition only and not regarding architectural or paint restriction. The meeting was well-attended and pros and cons were expressed by the attendees.

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. Glenn supplied each member with the results of the most recent survey. These results will be compared to the previous survey suggestions. The suggested additions to the parks will be prioritized and cost estimates will be presented for discussion and recommendation to Council. When the Borough has a new County Planner, work will resume discussion on the parks survey suggestions.

CONTINUED BUSINESS FOR FEBRUARY 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 and compare survey responses to past survey responses. Begin prioritizing suggestions based on need and cost estimates.

Discussion on historic preservation intentions, goals and focus.

Salvatore Boccuti made a motion at 7:40 seconded by Al Comly to adjourn.

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