

Planning Commission Meeting – July 2019

Crafton Attending: Planning Commission - Lydia Herring, Rich Kraemer, Kirsten Compitello, Phil Levasseur

Call To Order: 7:06

Status Updates Since June Meeting - Tactical Urbanism

Grant to Allegheny County is being written. It will be submitted by August 2. It is expected that we will hear sometime in September, for the October 6 event

The trees from the event will be donated and relocated as a gift to the borough.

Status Updates Since June Meeting – RFP for zoning rewrite

RJ mentioned that this was passed by council on August 16. She would be sending to a number of agencies to get estimates on the rewrite. The main areas they would be addressing in the zoning rewrite would be Main Street redevelopment, historical preservation, and non-conforming lots.

Lydia asked to talk about the bid procedure. RJ said all bids would be sealed and be sent to the office. A committee would be formed to review all bids. Kirsten asked how many responses would be considered a good number of responses and what would be the minimum limit. RJ responded that each would be judged on their own character. She stated that she was expecting a decent number of responses but if received only 3 bids the deadline would be extended. RJ said that the DCED was expecting a grant request from us. She said that she was looking for someone to move quickly on this to make as clear as possible what was needed. Lydia mention that the comprehensive plan needs to be referenced. Phil had several questions as to the scope of services as to what was expected from the consultant once they are chosen and if public visioning is being considered. He also asked what the schedule was and how long this type of proposal typically takes. RJ said that 1 ½ years is typical but would be trying to complete in year after choosing. Phil; asked if we could see what was proposed before moving forward. Kirsten believes that we would not need to redo the vision but we do need to have public awareness and get their feedback.

TOD Feedback and Toolbox draft

Lydia gave a quick update from the June joint meeting of Crafton and Ingram.

RJ stated that she had a meeting with Breen in her office and that Breen would be at the September joint meeting. She said that PAT was thrilled with the participation and how active Crafton and Ingram are. She said there was talk about the Idlewood Station. It was brought up that we do not want to overpopulate because of flooding issues. There are also question able parking issues in that area. Kirsten agreed that there is no space available down there RJ mentioned that PAT unlike other areas does not own property in this area. She said all-in-all it was a great meeting.

Crafton Updates

Kirsten asked about added new sidewalks, painted, etc. This led to a discussion about greenspace and greenspace mapping. RJ said there may be PA Walks grants available for this. She said we need a connectivity plan. Kirsten added we need to talk about bike connectivity. A discussion began on bike path availability, creation popups around crosswalk area sand temporary painted crosswalk areas. RJ said requirements around Act 167 need to be considered. Phil reiterated that Act 67 retirements need consideration around development areas. Phil said we need to have engineers look at PAT future development plans. RJ and Lydia said to add constructions ordinances to engineer review.

Phil asked about hot determine pervious vs. impervious areas Lydia asked how this is determined. Phil said to keep this in mind for future considerations.. He said we can see obvious areas that need work and to help them move up the list with improvements.

Lydia said she met with Greg Butler to set agenda with Breen and Lydia from PAT. RJ said we need to point to areas where we can wipe out a whole block to develop. Phil said that Tax Structure of the borough is a red flag. RJ commented that 2 developers are interested in Crafton and she sees no red flag. Phil and Lydia asked if an engineer's study was needed. Phil said we need to find favorable areas and fix impervious area to encourage develop area. Lydia asked how to get these studies in front of council .Phil said Act 167 makes thigs more stringent. We should do and consider this site-by-site. Lydia and Kirsten said we need to open line of communication to council. Developer communication is also needed. This can be used to communicate what incentives are available.

Business Identification Updates

Lydia said that the Turnkey Data was gotten She would be sending out spreadsheets to each member to start evaluating businesses. We need to download for our own use correct and add data for website, type of business tax paid ID, phone number and other fields.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56