

MEETING MINUTES FOR CRAFTON BOROUGH JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION

September 27, 2022

6:30 PM via Zoom

Crafton Commissioners: Kirsten Compitello (Chairwoman), Lydia Herring (Secretary), Eric Valcheff, Matt Greiner, Vince Ridilla

Ingram Commissioners: Jim Marsilio, Aaron Cygnarowicz

Call to Order: 6:36 pm

Roll Call: Kirsten Compitello, Eric Valcheff, Vince Ridilla, Lydia Herring; (Matt absent)

Citizen Comments: none

Ingram Borough Updates: None; Ingram commissioners not present

Joint Multimunicipal Zoning Project Update: The project is moving forward. Kickoff held in June, which was largely administrative. It consisted of a site tour with a small group. This kickoff was previously discussed during the June 2022 Crafton Planning Commission meeting. After the kickoff meeting, the Consultants working on the Joint Multimunicipal Zoning Project (Project) reviewed pertinent information about Crafton and Ingram, became familiar with the CITHrive Plan and the current set of zoning ordinances, and conducted interviews with Borough managers, public works, code enforcement for each borough separately.

A public visioning event was held on August 18, 2022: Crafton Planning Commissioners Vince, Kirsten, and Eric attended as representatives. Kirsten recalled at least 1 representative from Ingram Planning Commission also attending. The event was reasonably well attended by citizens, considering Carlynton parent night happened to be scheduled the same evening. (Note: Carlynton scheduled Parent Night weeks after the visioning event date had been chosen). The event served to inform community members and got the participants talking about the importance and role of updated zoning and the upcoming Project. Group suggestion made ask the Consultants to encourage attendees to sign in during future events to better capture full attendance. A summary of the public visioning event will be part of next Crafton newsletter.

The Project Steering Committee met August 24, 2022 and a second follow-up Steering Committee meeting held a week or so later due to poor attendance at the initial meeting. (Steering committees consist of 8 members per community and can meet jointly or separately). During these meetings, the Consultants provided a draft diagnostic report for the Steering Committee to discuss. (A copy of the draft diagnostic report was uploaded to the planning commission google drive). This document summarized consultant work for phase 1 of the process. The Planning Commission discussed the draft diagnostic report. Group suggestions: clarify conservancy district, add map, add glossary to define key terms. All individual and group comments on the draft diagnostic report are due end of day Oct 5th. Commenters to use pdf comment feature if at all possible and forward to the consultant directly or to Kirsten to pass along.

Action item: Kirsten to send consultant point of contact for Planning Commissioners to use to submit comments to project manager.

A final version of the diagnostic report to be available approximately October 20th. The executive summary will be able to be used to promote the Project and will act as a tool to promote the purpose.

Group also suggests using pg 5, paragraph 2 of the draft diagnostic report for future promotional materials (e.g., borough websites, Savvy Citizen, facebook groups, NextDoor). Consider using 3 Principles laid out on pg 5, as well for public information campaign.

A Planning Commission session to discuss the Project will occur when the Project is further along. There was previous interest in having a planning commission-specific session to discuss input. Could be handled as a sub-group of Planning Commission (e.g., 2 representatives for Crafton - no quorum) or as part of a regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting and open to the public. Details to be determined at a future meeting.

After the Final diagnostic report is complete, Phase 2 of project to follow will follow (draft revised ordinances).

Crafton Borough Updates

Parking Study presented to Council: walking tour, documented locations where emergency vehicles had issues navigating around corners. Existing ordinance review found that many of the suggestions are already part of existing code. Council decided no ordinance changes based on parking study; council prefers to enforce current legal standards via policing.

Update on Official Map: Eric working on draft. More information to come at a future meeting.

Crafton Planning Commission Reorganization: Discussion postponed for entire group to be present

Review of Minutes (no August meeting)

June & July minutes: Eric motioned to approve June and July meeting minutes, Lydia seconded. Approved unanimously.

Citizen Comments: No citizen comments. Eric announced the 1st grant award that came out of the Parks Master Site Plan, 250k grant. Match required, but that match value can be covered by other grants, if awarded (goal to leverage grants as best the borough can).

Adjourn: Eric motioned to adjourn 7:56 pm. Lydia seconded.