

MEETING MINUTES FOR CRAFTON BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION

October 25, 2022

6:30 PM via Zoom

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

Call to Order: 6:46 pm

Roll Call: Kirsten Compitello, Eric Valcheff, Lydia Herring (Matt and Vince unable to join)

Citizen Comments: None

Joint Multi-municipal Zoning Project Update: Group discussed that the Project is moving along. It's entering Phase 2: consultant is starting rewrite of ordinances.

The diagnostic report reviewed at the September Planning Commission meeting was updated and finalized based on comments from the Planning Commission, Council, and Steering Committee meeting. All comments were reconciled with the steering committee ahead of finalization. Steering committee felt none of the comments were controversial; all in agreement for the consultant to incorporate the suggested changes. The final diagnostic report was submitted to both Crafton and Ingram, as well as a separate executive summary for circulation to the public.

Action Item: Kirsten to ask Doug (Crafton Borough Manager) to post select text from the executive summary on the borough website and post the same as a SavvyCitizen announcement.

Planning Commission discussed Community awareness activities related to the Project: post executive summary, more to come initiated by consultants (likely after Christmas). Planning Commission is planning for a January date for the in-depth Planning Commission meeting regarding proposed draft ordinances.

Update on Official Map: Consultant was asked if the Official Map can be included in the Joint Multi-municipal Zoning Project scope of work. Answer to be determined. Eric has done a bit of research into Official Maps and started thinking through how to properly represent. Official Maps can earmark land Crafton has a stake in. Eric is hoping to also determine the best way to obtain permission from landowners along existing trails for public access. Eric shared with the group a map of Google showing Crafton (paper street) right of way near Dr Sakai as an example of an "easy trail to designate on the Official Map" because legally, it's recognized as part of Crafton. Chartiers Creek trail is USACE property, so perhaps not as easy. The Master Parks Site Plan, which names the Chartiers Creek trail as a designated trail in Crafton is currently under review by DCED, and not yet formally adopted. Stretch of "trail" is Rosslyn Farms territory and then becomes Chartiers Conservancy Land. Kirsten asked whether Eric's goal is for Crafton to acquire all the trail land or just be able to get people to know about it and use it. Eric clarified that he just wants the right of public access to be recognized. Kirsten suggested adding a "Trails and Walking Path" page on the website with an inset Google Map showing the trails or "greenspace right of ways" and identify non-Crafton owned property. Eric and Lydia agree. Kirsten suggested talking with Solicitor about wording.

Action item: Kirsten to reach out to Borough Solicitor and Engineer about next steps to get the trails into an official map. Lydia to try to contact USACE about permission for trail above improved levee.

Future activities

- A. Investment in Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding
 1. Statewide planning to qualify for funding: ensure Crafton participates. Will identify what kinds of programs are needed to get people access to the internet. Whatever ends up in the statewide plan, will open us up for federal funding.
 2. County Digital Equity plan led by City of Pittsburgh: ensure Crafton participates. Crafton's participation opens up CONNECT to be involved.
 3. <https://technical.ly/civic-news/pittsburgh-digital-equity-coalition/>
 - Eric willing/able to participate and take the lead for the Planning Commission since he works in this space.
- B. Trail improvements: covered in previous discussion
- C. Vehicle Electrification: Discussed on and off for the past few months regarding ordinances we'd like to recommend to anticipate citizens with electric vehicles.
 1. Model ordinances
<https://www.penndot.pa.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/Planning/EVs/Pages/EV-Model-Ordinance-Toolkit.aspx>
 2. Legislative updates <https://www.pahouse.com/InTheNews/NewsRelease/?id=124994>
 3. Funding in PA <https://afdc.energy.gov/laws/all?state=PA>

Action item: Lydia to look for model ordinance at a municipality level for EV charging cords across the sidewalk.

Transportation Camp Announcement: Kirsten announced upcoming Saturday event on mobility, safe streets, and transportation. Date is Nov 12 at Carnegie Mellon University. There is a small registration fee. Event will be held in person. More information can be found at the following link:
<https://mobilify.org/events/transportationcampppgh/>

Review September Minutes: Eric motioned to approve, Kirsten seconded, all agreed.

Citizen Comments: None

Adjourn: 7:51 pm