

MEETING MINUTES FOR CRAFTON & INGRAM BOROUGHS JOINT PLANNING COMMISSIONS

June 22, 2021

6:30 PM via Zoom

Crafton Commissioners: Kirsten Compitello (Chairwoman), Richard Kraemer (Secretary), Lydia Herring, Colton Chandler, Eric Valcheff

Ingram Commissioners: Greg Butler, Jim Marsilio, Aaron Cygnarowicz

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm.

Roll call

Greg Butler, Jim Marsilio, Kirsten Compitello, Rich Kramer, and Lydia Herring were present.

Citizen comments

There were no citizens on the line.

Ingram Borough Planning Commission Updates

Ingram is pursuing a Pedestrian Safety Plan that is moving forward.

Crafton Borough Planning Commission Updates

Crafton shared several updates: The updated zoning, to be pursued jointly with Ingram, is waiting for fall funding in anticipation of receiving funds from DCED's fall grant cycle. The selected consultant, EPD, has agreed to honor the previously discussed fee. This was agreed verbally. Planning Commission made a motion to request this extension be put in writing. The motion passed unanimously from those present. Lydia offered to reach out to Nick Macareth from DCED (Aug/early Sept) to keep up with the status of the grant. The Planning Commissions discussed having a workshop or similar informational session in the fall to share information about zoning and get residents aware and informed before the project kicks off. This could also be a series of posters or flyers instead of an event. Lydia offered to start a list of ideas for terms to define or concepts to explain, for continued discussion next month.

The Crafton Parks Master Plan is also starting. Consultant EPD has been selected. A Steering Committee is being selected, and applications were open to the community in Crafton. Planning Commission was not sure whether those applications were still open. The Parks Master Plan is not led by Planning Commission, but we will keep up to date with it. The Kickoff has not yet been announced.

The Crafton Boulevard Stormwater Separation project is in the ground. It got positive press and helped put Crafton in the news as a place where investment is happening in the community.

Crafton also hosted an Ecodistrict workshop, with participation from Ingram. Attendance was low, but it was mostly informational and was recorded. The recording is posted on the Crafton Borough website under Planning Commission and is available for future use. Crafton also created a second survey, which got good results. With Eric (the survey's creator) absent, we didn't describe the results in detail but instead said we could follow up with results at a later time.

Crafton and Ingram Borough Ecodistrict next steps

Both Planning Commissions reiterated they are interested in pursuing this. No steps have been taken on Ingram's side yet. Crafton has had few advances also, but Kirsten did reach out to CONNECT to seek support and is still waiting for a reply. She'll reach out again. The Planning Commission discussed hosting another Ecodistrict info session in the fall, ideally in person and possibly aligned with another community event.

Crafton initiatives for discussion

Crafton also discussed further initiatives: perhaps continuing to promote the community through marketing and a local business map, such as we discussed in 2019 and didn't complete. We also issued a reminder that the Vision document is a working document and can be added to. We postponed discussion of the structure of Planning Commission Google Drive folder, which was added to the agenda by Eric who was unable to attend.

Review of May minutes:

The minutes were reviewed and approved.

There were no citizen comments.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm.