

**CRANFORD DISTRICT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION  
BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES –OCTOBER 20, 2017**

**Present:**

Barry O'Donovan/Chairman  
Patrick Giblin/Deputy Mayor  
Joe Colangelo/resident  
Tom Connolly/business owner  
Anthony Durante/resident  
Jean Maisonneuve/resident  
Steve Needle/property owner  
Clara Nunziato/business owner  
Kathleen Miller Prunty/Director  
Michelle Stavrou/social media coordinator  
Ellen O'Donnell/administrative assistant  
Bill Masol/Township Engineer

**Absent:**

Paul LaCorte/property owner  
Vicki Spurr/resident  
Maureen Tinen/property owner

Ms. Prunty called the meeting to order at 8:30am. Announcement made that the meeting was posted as required by law.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- ❖ Motion to accept September 15, 2017 minutes by Mr. O'Donovan, seconded by Ms. Nunziato; all approve; correction will be made to a motion regarding free holiday parking to indicate that Mr. Durante voted no.

**TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONER REMARKS** – Deputy Mayor Giblin

**Victorian Lights**

- Victorian light replacement heads have been ordered and are in production.
- Installation has not been scheduled but will need to be coordinated with holiday wreath installation.
- Confirmed that DPW will be painting the lamppost after installation is completed.

**Baseball tournament – Summer 2018**

- Deputy Mayor Giblin announced that Cranford has been selected to host next summer's 10U regional baseball tournament late July/early August 2018; great opportunity to showcase our downtown.
- DMC office has been asked to put together a packet highlighting shopping, dining in the downtown.

**750 Walnut**

- Deputy Mayor Giblin reported that a judge's ruling provides that Cranford cannot be subject to a builders remedy lawsuit until January, 2019.

**ENGINEERING UPDATE** – Bill Masol

**Victorian Lights**

- Bill Masol is coordinating the installation; delivery expected 4-6 weeks from order date of October 19, 2017.
- Installation is expected to be completed over several weeks.
- Lights may be stored at the round house.

**North Union/Alden signal upgrade (handout)**

- Mr. Masol described the design upgrade and provided a handout:
  - 4 poles, one at each corner
  - Pedestrian counter timers but no push button
  - Modified curbing
- Mr. Masol will consult with Lt. Davenport regarding adding a parking space on North Union once it is paved and relined.

- Mr. Masol advised the DMC board that at least two brick planters need to be removed in order to complete the signal upgrade, corner at Emma's and corner at Ambeli.
- Mr. O'Donovan advised that there may be pushback from member of the community.
- Mr. Masol will draft a recommendation for planter removal, send to Ms. Prunty who will then forward to the DMC Board for review; Mr. Masol to include in the engineering report.
- The business and property owners will be notified in writing that the planters are being removed due to the signal upgrade and not to allow for additional outdoor seating.
- Work to expected to not begin before March. 2018.

Mr. Masol left at 9am

Deputy Mayor Giblin left at 9am

### **CHAIRMAN REMARKS** – Barry O'Donovan

- Mr. O'Donovan visited business owners in the area of Alden and North Ave. to get feedback regarding safety at the intersection.
- Next step is to set up time for those business owners to discuss their concerns with a member of the Township Committee and the township engineer.
- In addition to loss of parking, specific concerns include pedestrian safety due to little time to cross, confusion for drivers entering and exiting the train station lot, the narrow median across from The Artist Framer, all creating a hazardous environment.

### **BOARD COMMITTEES**

#### **Finance** – M. Tinen, P. LaCorte

- No report

#### **Strategic Plan** – A. Durante

- Held a status meeting that included members of Zoning and Planning Boards, Lt. Davenport, Bill Masol, Ron Johnson.
- Next steps:
  - update plan to include all comments from Zoning and Planning Boards.
  - hold a follow up meeting with Zoning and Planning Boards (date TBD)
  - present to the public (date TBD)

#### **Marketing, Events & Communication** – C. Nunziato, V. Spurr

##### **Scarecrow Stroll**

- Scarecrow Stroll planning continues; 107 scarecrow entries.
- Tote bags for participants in 2017 thanks to donations from 7 sponsors.
- Night stroll is October 27; DJ, selfie station at P.O. Plaza.
- Board invited to help at registration.

##### **Small Business Saturday**

- November 25, 2017.
- DJ at the clock.
- Ms. Nunziato stressed the importance of Small Business Saturday for retail.

#### **Design Standards & Maintenance** – T. Connolly, P. LaCorte

- Striping in lot 7 needs to be completed; started in the summer.
- Construction debris in alley by the Breadsmith.
- Bulbs out in alley lights.
- Suggestion to plant mums, enhance island at Centennial & South.
- Walk sign across North Ave. at Crown Bank is out – to be escalated to traffic division.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Kathleen Miller Prunty

#### **Business Updates: new, sold, closed; vacancies (handout)**

- Cranford Fish Stand ribbon cutting 10/19/17.
- Playa Bowls opening 10/20/17

- Boyle Financial will be going into 10 South Ave., Kiamie bldg.
- Embellish, formerly Belladonnas, reopened.
- Timber Ridge opened office at 102 South Ave. – former Tiffany Realty.
- Yale Terrace Brewery waiting on state approvals.
- Little Fox Cooking School going into Cranford Crossing, former Dinner in a Pinch location.
- Grandstand – new owner.
- Emmas - new owner.
- Urban Burger – new owner (food truck is a separate business)
- It's All About Me – new tenant signing lease, Deco Salon currently Centennial Ave.

#### **Business Owner Committee Meeting – November 8**

- First meeting with pop up event coordinator held in DMC office early October.
- Next meeting is with 8 business owners to discuss pop up business events for Spring 2018.

#### **Business Owner Holiday Kick Off – November 15**

- Evening at cake Artist Café; invitation to be sent out early November.

#### **Meeting with Union County Economic Development/Downtown Directors**

- Scotch Plains hosted on October 18, 2017
- Ms. Prunty described the positive feedback received from attendees regarding Cranford's downtown.

#### **ADJOURN**

❖ *Motion to adjourn at 9:45am by Mr. Colangelo, seconded by Mr. O'Donovan, all in favor.*

Respectively submitted,

Ellen O'Donnell,  
Administrative Assistant