

## **MINUTES - PLANNING BOARD**

### **Workshop meeting of November 1, 2017**

The meeting of the Cranford Planning Board was called to order by Ms. Murray on November 1, 2017 at 7:37 P.M. in Room 108 of the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey. Ms. Murray announced in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Westfield Leader or the Star Ledger had been notified and the agenda posted in the municipal building as required.

#### **1. ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Ms. Murray  
Ms. Anderson  
Dr. Chapman  
Commissioner Dooley  
Ms. Feder  
Mayor Hannen  
Ms. Pedde  
Ms. Steinbach  
Mr. Taylor

##### **Members Absent:**

None

##### **Alternates Present:**

Ms. Didzbalis

##### **Alternates Absent:**

Mr. Aschenbach

##### **Also present:**

Mark Rothman, Esquire; Ron Johnson, Zoning Officer; Ruthanne Della Serra, Interim Administrator/Scribe; Kathy Lenahan, Administrator/Scribe

#### **2. RESOLUTIONS OF MEMORIALIZATION**

**None**

#### **3. MINUTES**

Motion to adopt the minutes of the Workshop meeting of March 1, 2017 was made by Ms. Anderson seconded by Ms. Didzbalis and passed on unanimous voice vote.

Motion to adopt the minutes of the Workshop meeting of October 18, 2017 was made by Ms. Anderson seconded by Ms. Pedde, with the following voting in favor: Ms. Murray, Dr. Chapman, Commissioner Dooley, Ms. Feder, Ms. Steinbach, Mr. Taylor, Mayor Hannen abstained.

Motion to adopt the Executive Session minutes of October 18, 2017 was made by Ms. Anderson and seconded by Dr. Chapman with the following voting in favor: Ms. Murray, Commissioner Dooley, Ms. Feder, Ms. Pedde, Ms. Steinbach, Mr. Taylor, Mayor Hannen abstained.

#### **4. COMMUNICATIONS**

**None**

#### **5. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

Ron Johnson, Zoning Officer announced that the numbering for the Zoning Township Code has been changed from §136 to §255.

Motion for the Board to move into executive session was made by Ms. Anderson seconded by Ms. Steinbach with the following voting in favor of the motion: Ms. Murray, Dr. Chapman, Commissioner Dooley, Ms. Feder, Mayor Hannen, Ms. Pedde and Mr. Taylor.

Motion for the Board to return to open session was made by Dr. Chapman, seconded by Ms. Steinbach with the following voting in favor of the motion: Ms. Murray, Ms. Anderson, Commissioner Dooley, Ms. Feder, Mayor Hannen, Ms. Pedde, Mr. Taylor and Ms. Didzbalis.

Motion to recommend the Final Draft of the Birchwood Redevelopment Plan prepared by Harbor Consultants dated October 2017 to the Township Committee was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Chapman with the following voting in favor of the motion: Ms. Murray, Commissioner Dooley, Ms. Feder, Mayor Hannen, Ms. Pedde, Ms. Steinbach and Mr. Taylor.

#### **6. WORKSHOP PORTION**

Workshop meeting was moved into Council Chambers for a PowerPoint presentation.

Ron Johnson, Zoning Officer introduced Joseph Colangelo. Mr. Colangelo presented his credentials and stated that he is the CEO of Boxcar. Boxcar is a mobility and commuting company. He discussed various trends in commuting, parking, mass transit and ride sharing. Talked about parking meter evolution and the concept of dynamic and discriminate parking.

Spoke about New Jersey Transit. Feels that the Raritan Valley Line one-seat to NYC is unlikely. Trains and buses are more crowded than ever. The under investment in maintenance of NJ Transit has yet to be seen. There was a 2.9% decline in NJ Transit users last year. Contributing factors - lower gas prices, ride sharing more comfortable. There is a 211 person wait list for parking right now in Cranford.

Boxcar is in 12 towns right now. They carry a blanket insurance policy. Benefits of Boxcar to a town are: reduces the wait list for parking, congestion, CO2 emissions.

Questions from Board regarding presentation ascertained the following:

Parking is an issue in Cranford. In the future, parking garages may be phased out and converted into multi-story buildings. Boxcar leases about 191 parking spaces in 12 towns near train stations from churches, funeral homes, places that are closed on certain days, etc. Boxcar allows commuters to reserve seats, which allows for a better more dependable experience.

## **6. PUBLIC PORTION**

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was regularly made, seconded and passed. The meeting concluded at 10:05 P.M.

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Ann Steinbach, Secretary