

MINUTES - PLANNING BOARD

Workshop meeting of April 5, 2017

The meeting of the Cranford Planning Board was called to order by Ms. Murray on April 5, 2017 at 7:32 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. Feder
Mr. Chapman
Mayor Hannen
Commissioner Dooley
Ms. Pedde

Members Absent:

Ms. Steinbach
Ms. Anderson
Mr. Taylor

Alternates Present:

Mr. Aschenbach
Ms. Didzbalis

Alternates Absent:

None

Also present:

Mark Rothman, Esquire; Ruthanne Della Serra, Interim Administrator/Scribe, Ron Johnson, Zoning Officer, Madeline Colandro, Interim Assistant

2. RESOLUTIONS OF MEMORIALIZATION

NONE

3. MINUTES

NONE

4. COMMUNICATIONS

1. New Jersey Planner January/February 2017 edition distributed to the Board members.

5. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Distributed reports that are subject of April 20, 2017 meeting. Essential that a quorum is present. Board members should familiarize themselves with the contents of reports. Professionals will be in attendance at the hearing to discuss concerns or answer questions the members may have. Intent is to reach a vote that evening.

Discussion on whether environmental professionals who created report and performed testing should be in attendance. May also need a comprehensive report as to environmental testing that was conducted.

New business – Discussion with Downtown Business & Economic Development where one member asked about design standards for the Downtown and request to codify the standards which will assist in making the process run smoothly and efficiently. Members of DBED to flush out more details (spearheaded by Tom Connelly) and to present findings to the Board for consideration. Should be providing clear and concise materials that are required during the application process to be cost effective and streamline the process. Downtown Business & Economic Development is presently working on a plan together with Parking Commission resulting in a group that has taken the ball and is moving ahead quickly. Commissioner Dooley has seen draft which is very impressive and very realistic 5-year plan. Contains many features that can be introduced such as parking i.e. subsidized Uber rides. Also addresses traffic congestion and concept of flexible parking usage. Need to think as to the future and outside the box, multi-use and where vehicles would be parking, as well as what will happen with garages 25 years from now.

6. WORKSHOP PORTION

Ron Johnson, Zoning Officer was introduced to the members. His credentials and experience was presented to the members of the Board.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Board will go into executive session to discuss matters involving the Planning Board, the minutes of which will be released at some time in the future at the discretion of the Planning Board:

Motion made to go into executive session was made by Mayor Hannen, seconded by Mr. Aschenbach, with the following voting in favor of the motion: Ms. Murray, Ms. Feder, Mr. Chapman, Mayor Hannen, Commissioner Dooley, Ms. Pedde, Mr. Aschenbach and Ms. Didzbalis.

Motion made to go back into open session was made by Mayor Hannen, seconded by Mr. Aschenbach, with the following voting in favor of the motion: Ms. Murray, Ms. Feder, Mr. Chapman, Mayor Hannen, Commissioner Dooley, Ms. Pedde, Mr. Aschenbach and Ms. Didzbalis.

7. PUBLIC PORTION

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was regularly made, seconded and passed. The meeting concluded at 8:33 P.M.

Ann Steinbach, Secretary