

MINUTES - PLANNING BOARD

Workshop meeting of October 2, 2019

The meeting of the Cranford Planning Board was called to order by Ms. Murray on October 2, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the Municipal Building, 8 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey.

1. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Ms. Murray
Dr. Chapman
Ms. Didzbalis
Mayor Giblin
Ms. Pedde

Members Absent:

Mr. Cossa
Deputy Mayor Dooley
Ms. Feder
Mr. Taylor

Alternates Present:

Mr. Walton

Alternates Absent:

Mr. Aschenbach

Also present:

Jonathan Drill, Esq. Kathy Lenahan, Board Administrator

2. RESOLUTIONS OF MEMORIALIZATION

None

3. MINUTES

Motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of September 18th was made by Ms. Didzbalis, seconded by Ms. Pedde and passed on roll call vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Murray, Dr. Chapman, Ms. Didzbalis, Mayor Giblin, Ms. Pedde and Mr. Walton.

Opposed: None

Motion to approve the Workshop and Official minutes of September 18th was made by Ms. Didzbalis, seconded by Ms. Pedde and passed on roll call vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Murray, Dr. Chapman, Ms. Didzbalis, Mayor Giblin, Ms. Pedde and Mr. Walton.

Opposed: None

4. COMMUNICATIONS

None

5. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

PRESENTATION BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Members of the Historic Preservation Advisory Board (HPAB) present were:
Steven Saltzman, Sarah Oliver and Teresa Bulger.

Ms. Murray stated this is an informal presentation of a proposal by the HPAB. The HPAB is requesting that a Historic Preservation Element be included in the Master Plan.

Mr. Drill stated if the Element was to be adopted, there would need to be a public hearing and the document would be subject to questions of the Board and the Public.

Steven Saltzman read a statement and Sarah Oliver reviewed portions of the proposed Element. Stated the Element was prepared by members of the HPAB. Ms. Oliver reviewed the action plan (section 10).

Discussion was held as to whether or not the HPAB intended to be considered a commission or an advisory board.

Mr. Drill asked about having an ordinance in place.

Mr. Saltzman stated the Board wants what is in the best interest of the Town and would like to do what they can to support the Town.

Ms. Oliver stated there is a point system if the Board was to become a commission and that with a certain amount of points you can apply for funding for preservation projects.

Questions from the Planning Board members ascertained the following:
HPAB wants to have guidelines/recommendations only. They do not want to restrict homeowners in what they can or cannot do. This is a plan to strengthen the character of Cranford. It is up to the Township to decide whether or not to have an ordinance. There is a difference between guidelines and requirements.

Mr. Drill stated if the HPAB becomes a commission, it would need to be funded by the Township.

The Planning Board reviewed the report and made some comments and recommendations.

6. PUBLIC PORTION

Shirley Gazsi is a Trustee of the Cranford Historical Society. Feels there is a lot of miss information out there and that Cranford is at a tipping point. Stated that the Historical Society would like to work with the HPAB and the Township.

Planning Board recommended the HPAB make the changes discussed tonight and come back to another workshop and present the revised Element.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was regularly made, seconded and passed. The meeting concluded at 9:06 p.m.

Donna Pedde, Secretary