

PRINCETON PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 16, 2017
PRINCETON – Meeting Room A
Princeton, NJ

PRESENT: Jenny Crumiller, Julie Capozzoli, David Cohen, Wanda Gunning, Timothy Quinn, Mildred Trotman, Zenon Tech-Czarny, Gail Ullman

ALTERNATES: Louise Wilson

ABSENT: Fern Spruill, Dwaine Williamson

ALSO PRESENT: Gerald Muller, Esq., Board Attorney; Lee Solow, Planning Director; Ilene Cutroneo, Board Secretary; Jack West, Land Use Engineer

Chairperson Gunning called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm, acknowledging the opening statement as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, stating that notice of this meeting was issued on March 8, 2017.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

In the matter of:
Ziad & Nada Hadaya
Minor Subdivision
File # P1515-299MS

Chairperson Gunning read the resolution to enter into executive session at 5:35 pm.

The Board returned from executive session at 5:50 pm and a motion was made by Ms. Crumiller, seconded by Mrs. Ullman to continue the litigation. The motion was carried with a voice vote of eight ayes. No one opposed. No one abstained. Mr. West left the meeting at this time and Deanna Stockton, Municipal Engineer joined the meeting.

Prior to the start of the worksession, Chairperson Gunning turned the meeting over to Mrs. Ullman, chair of the Master Plan Committee.

WORKSESSION:

a) Circulation Element Amendment. Mrs. Ullman noted that no action will be taken on the document as this is the first full discussion on the proposed amendment and she expects changes will be made to the distributed material. Prior to the Board's discussion, Mr. Solow presented an over view of the documents that were distributed for the evening's discussion. In addition to the language modifications to the document which were based on the Parson's draft bike plan, a few clean up items were also included: updating the Complete Streets Policy, revisions to the suggested improvement map and sidewalk map.

Mr. Solow went through the specific changes in the document, generalizing the areas of change. This is a summary of the comments presented by the Board members:

- Introduction needs to be reworked to reflect current realities (Mr. Quinn advised that he would provide the language to give to staff).
- numerous changes were proposed to the entire document with language changes. Mr. Cohen also advised that he prepared a separate edited version which would be given to staff to incorporate.
- changes should be made to the language in the Strategies section
- address the Roadway Inventory and make changes to the designation (noted by Ms. Stockton that the methodology has changed and a recommendation for a complete revision would be made to be included in the reexamination report)
- inclusion of a section to discuss parking
- inclusion of language to address right of way is shared by the homeowner and the public
- edits to the Complete Streets policy.

During the course of the discussion, Mr. Quinn and Ms. Crumiller, requested that the Parsons report be adopted in its entirety and make it an appendix to the Circulation Element in the Master Plan. Mrs. Ullman expressed concern about including the appendix in its entirety as the specific recommendations regarding local streets were not fully discussed with the property owners. She also commented that over the course of time, things change, policies change as well as engineering technology so it is important to have an underlying policy that addresses all needs. Mrs. Ullman stated that she was looking for specific recommendations as a priorities list and asked that the Parsons report be reviewed to provide this information. Mrs. Gunning added that central theme of the report should be used to provide direction on the material to be included. Mr. Solow advised that most of the information was in the appendices of the Parsons report.

Mrs. Ullman opened the meeting to the public for comments at this time.

Mike Suber, supported the efforts but emphasized the need to provide specifics and guidance to the Engineering staff for design and construction. He also stated that he wants the draft report adopted so these changes are mandated.

Tineke Thio, spoke to the need of adopting the document as presented which would provide road safety and enforce a transportation transition in the community.

Vivika Martins, stated there is too much vehicular traffic and the town needs to provide a walkable/bikeable community. She supported the Parsons document and stated that the sharrows are useless.

Bob Altman, speaking as Chair of the Complete Streets committee, spoke of the need to provide improved facilities for cyclists, to advise Council on how to proceed to implement the improvements.

Nat Bottenheimer, objected to the term 'bike people' that was used during the discussion, stating it marginalizes the ridership.

Rob Dodge, stated he supported the Parsons report to be adopted in the appendix of the Master Plan.

Lisa Serysol, spoke in support of the bike plan as protection for the children, stating that they need safeways to bike and walk to school.

Mia Sacks, wants the Board to take the initiative and adopt the Parsons report. She also stated she doesn't want to leave Princeton for her family to enjoy cycling.

Hearing no further comments, the public was closed. Mrs. Ullman requested that those members who offered language changes to submit those to staff to be included in the next draft. Mr. Solow advised that he would distribute the appendices from the Parsons report which would assist in establishing the recommended bike network priorities. Staff will return with a revised document that included the changes being submitted by Board members.

Motion was made by Mrs. Trotman to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Cohen. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3/17/17

Ilene Cutroneo, Board Secretary
PRINCETON PLANNING BOARD

Approved: 4/20/17

Wanda Gunning, Chairperson
PRINCETON PLANNING BOARD