

Community Planning Meeting - December 16th 2020
Zoom Meeting Convened at 7:00pm

(Minutes for Approval - Presented at January 20, 2021)

Members Present: Jennifer Borders, Ron Meick, John Schefflen, Grace Ressler, Mark Wood.
Visitors: Marianne Cinaglia, Debbie Ricard

Buzz Ware Community Center Gardner's Financial Report - given by Toby Ridings \$420.00 in membership funds. There is cash left-over. Toby showed the report. Extra space was planted. They announce in the Page and distribute flyers to encourage new gardeners in February. Garden opens around March 17th. The garden is closed down at the end of November. Suggestion was made that they hold elections periodically for a new chair. Since they have extra cash this year, a suggestion was made to make a donation to the BWVC with it.

Review of the VACANT HOUSING ORDINANCE - John: No major changes will be made to substance of how it works. Possible changes to look at: the definitions need to change e.g. for what is an ADU; New Castle County is a 90-day vacancy length; no change to fees; protests appeal to Town assembly is stop-gap; reorganize order to be more logical; how do we determine what is a vacancy. There needs to be more frequent observations, talking to neighbors, if there are no problems then there is no evidence. Somebody has to be responsible and take notes. Jen will call Jeff Politis to get his feedback on what changes would be helpful for enforcement. It was noted that if the ordinance is to be changed it would require three Town Assembly meetings to approve changes.

Revision # 4 of the CPC Sub-Committee Guidance Document - presented by Jennifer Borders, Chairperson. Discussion followed. Next meeting of CPC will be announced and public comment invited at January 20th meeting.

Discussion of The Red Book vis a vis that there is no longer a comprehensive compilation of legislative changes. (Legislative Reference Committee). John has suggested that we address this. Marianne Cinaglia questioned whether Town Officers should function as authorities or whether Town Assembly Chair is a leadership or authority position to make unilateral decisions. Advisory was mentioned as the committee who might serve in matters of legislative reference and could do a systematic review of town documents.

Articles in the page on governance issues: As a volunteer, Marianne Cinaglia will write a series of articles on our Charter and Town Assembly System and possibly hold Zoom meetings coordinated with members of the volunteers & announced publicly. (subsequent to the CPC Meeting, the announcement of the upcoming articles was published in the Page)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm.

Respectfully submitted: Grace Ressler, Secretary