

**BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

***Wednesday, July 1, 2020***

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman St. Germain who welcomed everyone in attendance and led the assembled in the pledge of allegiance.

Members in attendance: Mr. Ed Green, Mr. Doug Upton, Mr. Nathan St. Germain, Mr. Tom Rostek, Ms. Shea Murtaugh, Mr. Thomas Wingens, and Ms. Christine Allen.

Also in attendance were Randy McCray, Borough Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer and Carolyn Yagle, Environmental Planning & Design.

**GUEST**

Ms. Yagle was in attendance to update the Commission on the status of the preparation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan with Aleppo Township, Sewickley Borough and Glen Osborne Borough and to answer any questions on the recommendations provided therein. She will coordinate with Ms. Marcinko to present to Borough Council for its review and recommendations and to commence the public review process. As there are items contained in the Plan which are project-oriented, consideration may be given as to how to prioritize those recommendations and move them forward, with a focus on those which could be considered in 2021-2022. The Plan is a living document.

Mr. Green suggested adding an agenda item for next month's meeting for Commissioner's to focus their efforts on reviewing specific recommendations when there are not other projects to review. Mr. Rostek suggested that the Commission consider reviewing those that are zoning-related first. Ms. Yagle stated that she will share a marked-up version of the Borough's Subdivision and Land Development and Zoning Ordinances with Ms. Marcinko. She will highlight the sections of the Zoning Ordinance which are listed in the recommendations contained in the proposed Plan.

A motion was made by Mr. Rostek, second by Mr. Green, to move the draft Plan forward to Borough Council for review, discussion and approval. Motion carried 7-0.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 3, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Ed Green made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Murtagh. Motion carried 7-0.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Proposal for CCTV location and assessment of Hoey's Run Culvert**

Mr. St. Germain asked Mr. Green to lead the discussion.

Mr. Green stated that the culvert size changes during its course. Mr. Green stated that he spoke with Ms. Marcinko regarding the cost of the study and Ms. Marcinko felt that the cost was reasonable given the scope of work and the detail to be provided in the report, which would include recommendations for remedial work. Mr. Wingens stated that it would be advisable to clarify expectations on deliverables

up front. Mr. St. Germain recommended that the Commission request a narrative on the deliverables. Mr. Green will reach out to Ms. Marcinko and request clarification on the deliverables. Mr. Wings suggested requesting a sample of a comparable study performed by LSSE.

A motion was made by Mr. Rostek, second by Mr. Green, to submit the proposal to Borough Council for consideration of funding in the 2021 budget, with clarification as to deliverables in the form of a narrative and sample project. Motion carried 7-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. St. Germain welcomed Mr. Upton to the Planning Commission. Mr. Upton stated that he resides at 664 Maple Lane and is a consultant with Aspirant. He and his wife are originally from the Pittsburgh area and have recently returned to make their home in Sewickley. He is looking forward to serving and getting involved in local government.

### **Consideration of amendment to Zoning Ordinance related to Parking Requirements – Driveways**

Mr. St. Germain asked Mr. Green to lead the discussion.

Mr. Green commented on the issue with the driveway installed on Hopkins St last year. There is currently no restriction on grade. Mr. Green researched driveway standards, including County and national standards, and found that residential driveways are typically limited to a 15% grade. PA DOT standards regulate both grade, rate of change and curb cuts. He stated that another driveway is currently being installed on Hopkins St. He proposes that new driveway construction standards be added to the Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. McCray stated that he spoke with Mr. Harshman about the PA DOT standards. The only concern was that they may be overly onerous to administer.

Mr. Allen questioned whether State legislation/standards would be in effect if local legislation did not address this matter. Mr. McCray stated that would be unlikely.

A motion was made by Mr. Green, second by Ms. Allen, to add to the Zoning Ordinance Section 330.1002 (G) at sentence 5 that “construction of driveways is to be in accordance with PA DOT Publication 13M, Chapter 7, Driveways. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. St. Germain commended Mr. Green for taking the lead on this matter and for his solid work over the past several months.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Outdoor Dining Concepts**

Mr. St. Germain stated that 3 concepts were developed and proposed to assist businesses through added seating capacity: Open Street, Occupied Parking and Occupied Public Space.

A meeting was held recently to discuss the feedback received from the Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce from a survey they circulated to gauge interest. 7 retail businesses and 3 restaurants responded and expressed interest. The recent restriction imposed by Allegheny County on alcohol sales

required another pivot for restaurants, leading many to focus on take-out. The level of participation will drive the type of concept employed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, on motion of Ms. Murtaugh, second by Mr. Rostek, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

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Nathan St. Germain  
Chairman