



ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD
APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING
Meeting Held Over Zoom
September 30, 2020
Minutes Prepared by Molly Porter

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Syed Shamim, Ben Friedman, Keith Chernikoff, Maria Silvia Miller, James Drake, Isabelle Gournay, and Matthew Inzeo
STAFF PRESENT: Molly Porter

II. Agenda approved as amended

The Board discussed the previous vote taken on the proposed Royal Farms development. Mr. Drake raised a strong concern that the discussion of the inclusion of electric vehicle charging stations had been misleading with the representatives from Royal Farms. He further explained that the condition of support that required the installation of the infrastructure for two (2) electric vehicle charging stations did not align with the discussion that Royal Farms would work with Tesla or a different EV Charging station company because these companies would not just install two (2) charging stations. Ms. Porter stated that she contacted the City Solicitor for guidance about changing the vote and provided the Board with this guidance, including that an advertised discussion to which the representatives from Royal Farms were invited would be required.

III. Minutes of September 16, 2020 were approved (6-0-1) as presented (Mr. Drake abstained)

V. Pedestrian and Bicyclist Master Plan Update

Ms. Porter presented an overview of the Pedestrian and Bicyclist Master Plan Update explaining that the Board previously divided up the recommendations in the Pedestrian and Bicyclist Master Plan to determine whether the recommendations had been completed and if the priority level listed in the plan was still appropriate. Ms. Porter also presented the additional items that were recommended to be added to the plan. During the presentation it was noted that the Pedestrian and Bicyclist Master Plan is used to recommend capital projects to be completed by the City. Board members felt that the recommendations needed additional review and asked that Ms. Porter divide the recommendations into sections and then Board members will visit the locations to evaluate those recommendations and provide an update.

VI. Discussion of Pedestrian Paths and Cyclists

The Board continued their discussion about cyclists using pedestrian pathways and the safety concern that this raises. Ms. Porter noted that in the State of Maryland unless a municipality explicitly allows for bicycles on sidewalks they are prohibited and that the City's Code does not allow for cyclists on sidewalks. There were discussions about specific locations that Board members felt were particularly concerning and there was a discussion about children on bicycles using the sidewalks as a safety measure. There was a robust discussion of bicycles on the inner pathway system and the safety issues that can be caused by pedestrians and cyclists interacting on these paths. There was discussion about whether signage could be posted in certain areas. The Board also agreed that GHI would need to be included in the conversation on this issue to gain a better understanding of their policies. It was agreed that prior to the next discussion about this topic information from GHI would be gathered.

VII. Election of a Vice-Chair

Mr. Friedman nominated himself. Mr. Drake seconded the nomination. Mr. Chernikoff asked if there were additional nominations. No other nominations were made. The Board voted 7-0 to elect Mr. Friedman as Vice-Chair. Before the conclusion of this item Mr. Chernikoff indicated that he recommends the Board hold an election for Chair during January, 2021.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.