

**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2007

MEETING CONVENED 7:00 p.m., City Manager's Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Dentel presiding, Steven Beard, Robert Bennett, Kurt Philipp, Ajay Prasad, Kass Sheedy, Fred Stiegler
Note: Mr. Bennett presided after Mr. Dentel left the meeting

MEMBERS ABSENT: Thomas Fruehstorfer

STAFF PRESENT: Joseph Spadafino, Parks & Recreation Superintendent

GUESTS PRESENT: Guests included several University students from the Journalism Department

Note: Mr. Dentel called the meeting to order and addressed items 3 and 6 (Green Building and Community Day) prior to leaving at 7:18 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD ON JULY 10, 2007

Mr. Prasad asked to change the second sentence in the first bulleted item on page 3, item 6, (Community Day Planning), to eliminate the words "bike trails and mass transit".

MOTION BY MR. PRASAD, SECONDED BY MS. SHEEDY: THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 10, 2007 MEETING BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. VOTE: 7 to 0.

AYE: Beard, Bennett, Fruehstorfer, Philipp, Prasad, Sheedy, Stiegler
NAY: 0
ABSENT: Dentel

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments forthcoming.

3. GREEN BUILDING INCENTIVES FOR NEWARK

Although City staff recommendations to Council on green building did not go as far as CAC had proposed, Mr. Dentel felt they were a step forward nonetheless. Mr. Dentel referenced a draft report on LEED prepared by Mr. Lopata for consideration by the Planning Commission. He will forward the draft to CAC members for their review and comment. Mr. Dentel reported that by October or November, the City would implement a new Building Code, and it was the most extensive, energy-saving Building Code to date.

Mr. Bennett reported the latest issue of Sierra Club's magazine was largely devoted to green energy, and he would report any interesting items to the Committee.

4. FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION AND STORMWATER REGULATIONS

Mr. Bennett mentioned that several years ago the City completed a dredging project underneath the bridge crossing the Christina at Elkton Road. This area has refilled in a relatively short period of time, creating an unhealthy situation for the river. Mr. Bennett expressed concern that new development at the Newark Country Club might lead to increased runoff due to anticipated large areas of impervious surface, and he hoped measures would be taken to control the runoff. Mr. Bennett felt this might be an important area of interest for the CAC to address.

5. REVIEW OF PLANNING DEPT. REPORTS RE POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

(a) Ms. Sheedy asked if any comments had been received on the CAC's resolution regarding open space and sustainable building at Country Club Estates. The developer requested the August 7th plan review by the Planning Commission be tabled, and thus, there was no feedback at this time. The revised plans were tentatively scheduled to be reviewed at the Planning Commission meeting on October 2nd.

(b) Mr. Stiegler questioned if CAC had any environmental concerns or interest in the Planning Commission review of the four-unit apartment building at 203 New London Road. This plan review had also been tabled, and members were not aware of the reason for the postponement.

6. COMMUNITY DAY PLANNING

Plans were finalized for the CAC booth at Community Day scheduled for 9/16/07. Mr. Bennett planned to contact the University of Delaware Students for the Environment to invite them to participate at the CAC booth. Mr. Spadafino will provide the CAC with a rain barrel (if any remained) for their booth from the Water Use and Conservation class sponsored by Parks & Recreation.

7. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

(a) Mr. Beard requested Planning Department weekly reports and CAC agendas and minutes be sent electronically to Committee members in an effort to save paper and reduce postage costs.

8. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:45 PM.

Alice Van Veen
Secretary

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