

**CITY OF NEWARK
DELAWARE**

**CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

April 8, 2014

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Fruehstorfer, John Hornor, Ajay Prasad, Carol Riggs, Kass Sheedy, John Wessells

ABSENT: George Irvine, Bob McDowell

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Fortner, Development Supervisor, Planning & Development, Tim Filasky – Deputy Director, Public Works & Water Resources

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD ON MARCH 11, 2014

MOTION THAT THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 11, 2014 MEETING BE APPROVED AS RECEIVED.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2. PUBLIC COMMENT/GUEST – ROB GIFFORD – NEW APPOINTED COUNCILMAN FOR DISTRICT 3 & MIKE FORTNER, DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISOR

Mr. Gifford, newly appointed Council member for District 3 was present to observe and offer some suggestions. It was Mr. Gifford's opinion the CAC was not mentioned routinely during Council meetings. Mr. Gifford would like to change that. He asked the CAC the following:

- How can Council better involve the CAC? What projects would the CAC like to pursue?
- Has air monitoring (as it pertains to the Anti-Idling Ordinance) ever been conducted in the City?
- How can Council help the CAC obtain their goals for 2014/2015?

Ms. Riggs stated to her knowledge there had never been a ticket or warning issued for idling in the City since the inception of the Anti-Idling Ordinance. She also mentioned (in response to Mr. Gifford's inquiry about the CAC being approached by Council for projects) that the Commission had worked with Mr. Markham on McKees Park solar park.

The CAC will think of some upcoming projects to pursue with Council and advise Mr. Gifford.

Mike Fortner, Planning & Development Supervisor was present to discuss a summary of the Comprehensive Plan progress. (Copy distributed and added into the CAC file.) He asked the CAC to continue developing more goals and additional action items (in particular for Chapter 7 – Environmental Quality and Natural Resources.)

He reported there will be an upcoming meeting on Monday, April 14th in Council Chamber.

3. FUTURE GOALS FOR 2014/2015

The CAC needs to re-address amending LEED in the City Building Code. Mr. Fruehstorfer stated the guidelines required by the City were fairly stringent compared to what was originally decided upon (with the assistance of Roy Lopata, Former Planning & Development Director). It was Mr. Fruehstorfer's opinion to review the recent construction to see where they fall. Have they followed the guidelines?

Action Item: Buildings less than 20,000 square feet are exempted. Those guidelines need to be tightened.

Renewable Energy – the City needs to look for ways increase the use of renewable energy. How can the City/CAC obtain funding for other worthwhile projects such as McKees Solar Park? How can the CAC renovate 05-H in a new way? Mr. Prasad reported a bill had been introduced at the state level called the Downtown Development Districts. He stated that \$7 million is being proposed to be made available to offer incentive for new development projects in cities. The City could pursue funds from this for the following:

- Plastic bag ban.
- Energy audit
- Rooftop Gardens (John Hornor will research)
- Backyard Habitats
- Green Transportation (Ms. Sheedy will try to contact former member Nadine Bangarter to obtain her old files.)
- Stormwater Management (Mr. Fruehstorfer will review his old report) and see how the CAC can pick-up where they left off.

4. ANTI-IDING ORDINANCE

Ms. Riggs will contact the Newark Police Department to inquire if they are agreeable to enforcing the Ordinance.

5. A BETTER NEWARK AWARD

There was nothing to report.

6. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the City Manager's Conference Room.

10. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:57 PM

Tara A. Schiano
Secretary

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