

Proposed MINUTES FOR GARRETT HILL IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING FOR OCTOBER 18, 2011

The Garrett Hill Implementation Committee (GHIC) met on Tuesday, October 18, 2011, at the Radnor Township Building, 301 Iven Road, Wayne, PA for a meeting scheduled at 6:30 pm.

Present were Chair Rick Barker, Vice Chair Phil Ahr, and Committee members Nancy Leinwand, Jim Cunilio, Jerry O'Connor, and Ryan Caffrey. Committee Members not present were Le Turner and Betty Lou Norcini. Members of the public were present.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Barker at 6:35 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Barker led the committee members and public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adopting the Agenda

O'Connor moved to adopt the Agenda as submitted. Cunilio seconded the motion. No discussion was held and the motion was approved unanimously.

Approving Minutes

O'Conner moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of July 19, 2011 as corrected. Cunilio seconded the motion. No discussion was held and the motion was approved unanimously.

Community Announcements

Radnor Township Board of Commissioners, Monday October 24, 2011
GH Historic Research Committee – Thursday, 12/1/2011, 7:00 pm, RUMC
Villanova Campus Master Plan, ongoing

Reports of Officers

Barker noted that Villanova University is completing a Campus Master Plan that will include a development proposal. RT Manager Bob Zienkowski says that VU will introduce a draft plan to the community for review before the plan is set. VU and RT will publicize the meetings to present the plan.

Reports of Working Groups

Grants and Funding – Leinwand reported that the GHC-GHCET has written letters to all WREN (Water Resources Education Network) grant partners advising them of the status of the application (not funded, unfortunately) and requesting continued support for a new application to be filed in March, 2012. The applicants anticipate continued collaboration with the project in Macrone Park.

Gateways and Conestoga rock slope improvement – RT Manager Zienkowski provided a site plan for proposed improvement to the SEPTA rock slope on Conestoga Road using the small PA grant funds. The plan calls for a retaining wall and plantings to extend downhill from the Radnor Business Campus property. RT is coordinating with SEPTA to see if any improvements in stormwater management and aesthetics can be included in the current repair to the track bed that was damaged by the summer storms.

Public comment: Patti Barker of the Garrett Hill Coalition asked for explanation of the plan for the RT grant project and display of the site plan. A final site plan will be posted on the RT website.

Barker discussed briefly the possibility of designing special ‘welcome to Garrett Hill’ signage.

Park Improvements – Barker noted pending installation of flagpole at Emlen Tunnell Park. Zienkowski reports that flagpole installation for Emlen Tunnell is scheduled by November 10, 2011. Barker offered committee assistance siting and lighting the Tunnell flagpole.

Committee members discussed the scope of park improvements.

Streetscape and Facade improvements – Ahr notes that most streetscape and facade improvements will take place on redevelopment. He stressed the importance of improving the GH Route 100 SEPTA station for greater security and safety.

Parking Improvements – Barker reiterated issues of permit parking and infrastructure improvements are beyond the scope of the committee.

Historic Preservation and Design Criteria – Ahr reported on activities of the GHHRC committee. The committee hosted Michel LeFevre of the PA Historic Commission to provide an opinion on state registration of parts of Garrett Hill as an historic district. LeFevre noted areas suitable for designation as both historic district and neighborhood conservation district. The GHHRC will meet on December 1, 2011 to consider next steps.

Unfinished Business

2011 Annual Report – Barker noted that committee members would now develop the next GHIC annual report. Barker envisions a concise report that focuses on shaping longer-term priorities, conceived as a multi-year plan. For the next GHIC meeting, committee members will select higher priority items from the GH Master Plan that they would like to see completed in the next year or two. Committee members will develop a draft for consideration in the January meeting.

Committee members discussed GHMP items for prioritization.

Zienkowski noted that RT currently is formulating a long-term capital planning budget for the Township for GHMP-type improvements, stressing that the committee’s consideration of Master Plan priorities is timely. The capital plan areas of concern will be presented over several upcoming BoC meetings. GHIC members should present their thoughts at the appropriate meeting. (For December, the consideration is stormwater management.) He will communicate the schedule of the future discussions of the capital budget plan, specifically park facilities.

Chair Barker noted that committee members may wish to attend RT BoC meeting of 10/24/2011 when the GHMP will come up on the agenda for incorporation into the RT CLUP. In addition, the committee and community members may wish to attend any presentation of Villanova University’s master plan and development proposal.

New Business

Barker asked committee for consideration of the next meeting times. Regularly scheduled 2012 meeting dates include 1/17, 4/17, 7/17, 10/16. O'Connor moved that the GHIC meeting time should be set for 6:30 pm. Cunilio seconded the motion. Committee members discussed timing concerns. The motion passed with one no vote. The next quarterly meeting of the GHIC is scheduled for Tuesday January 17, 2012 at 6:30 pm.

Public Comment

Patti Barker encouraged the committee to consider the GHMP carefully – to prioritize the most important action items and to seek goals that GH and RT can realize.

Adjournment

O'Connor moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm, the motion was seconded by Ahr and approved unanimously without discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Leinwand
GHIC Secretary