

TOWN of SOUTH BETHANY
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2018

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dick Oliver called the meeting to order at 10 am.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Dick Oliver, Scott Fischer, John Janowski, Linda Lewis, Joe Conway, George Reese, Sharon Polansky

Absent: Town Council liaison Tim Shaw

Other attendees: None

OLD BUSINESS

Adoption of January 19, 2018 minutes.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Street Light Master Plan: Review of this working document took the lion's share of the meeting. Street Lighting Master Plan Draft 1.5 working document was thoroughly reviewed, with appropriate changes/revisions to be made, where suggested, including using verbiage from other towns' lighting plans to help finesse language and specifically noting exclusions, items out of the document's purview, where necessary. Discussion included appropriate document style consistency in keeping with other Town documents.

Chairman Oliver suggested inviting Jim Smith from Delmarva Power to the next Planning Commission meeting to illuminate the topic under discussion, and he will extend this invitation.

Draft 1.5 of the Street Lighting Master Plan will be revised in keeping with the suggested comments, insertions and revisions, resulting in Draft 2.0 which will be discussed at the next Planning Commission meeting May 18, 2018.

Advisory Shoulders: As a result of inadequate support to go forward with this innovative, but not sufficiently tested pedestrian and bicycle safety road improvement enhancement (DelDot letter to Planning Commission Council Liaison Tim Shaw dated March 8, 2018), it was agreed no further action would be taken with this suggestion to improve bicycle and pedestrian street safety.

However, as improved walkability and bicycle safety is of great urgency, especially given the oncoming summer season and the fact that micro-surfacing, in the areas where applied, has not sufficiently eliminated many of the lines on the road, a motion was made and passed to recommend that Town Council address this issue, and pursue an alternative to the advisory shoulder approach, either with sandblasting or paint, in keeping with Goal 6 of the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

An additional idea that might further contribute to pedestrian and bicycle safety was the notion of using stenciling as markers on the roadways. This idea will be discussed with Town Council members under whose purview this suggestion might fall.

NEW BUSINESS

Beach Access: In keeping with the sentiment provided in the Town's 2015 survey and with the goals of the 2017 Town Comprehensive Plan, concern was addressed to begin the investigation of ways to improve beach access in light of the oncoming beach replenishment that is going to take place this summer and fall. The Planning Commission will send a memo to Town Council to convene a meeting to initiate activity to plan for dealing with improved beach access. Historical confusion regarding the responsible agent for beach access improvement was clarified, with the Town owning beach access points but with DNREC controlling what can be done.

Marine Safety Communication: A suggestion to include a tab on the Town website that would detail boating (including kayaking) safety regulations and rules, marine certification requirements, crabbing, as well as boat etiquette, etc., has been made to the Town.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None. No members of the public were present.

MEETING ADJOURNED: The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm. The next scheduled meeting is May 18, 2018.

Submitted by Sharon Polansky