



COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019 – 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

Participants: The following CEC Members were present: Sue Callaway, Chair; Donna Farrow; Bobbe Stephan; Susan Spingler; Carol Stevenson; and Rick Gentile, Public Works. The following members were absent: Diann Nazarian; Kent Stephan; and Peggy Tinklepaugh. Joseph Hinks, Code Enforcement Inspector and Ryan Dacey, Code Enforcement Assistant were also present. SB property owner Wilma Kaplan attended.

After a motion by Donna Farrow and 2nd by Bobbe Stephan, the group approved the September 2019 CEC Meeting Summary

Code Enforcement Discussion: The group moved forward with a discussion with Code Enforcement (CE). At the request of the CEC, Inspector Hinks and his assistant Ryan Dacey attended to update the CEC on Ryan's role with the CE and respond to any CEC questions particularly with the codes related to maintenance. To date, Ryan has issued 50 letters of code violations, received 30 responses and is awaiting responses to the remaining 20. Violators have 30 days to respond to the certified letters. The majority of the violations are related to property maintenance and property owners are responding favorably. Inspector Hinks clarified that per the owners' right of privacy, CE may only observe properties from the public right of way, unless CE has permission from adjacent neighbors to observe a concern from the neighbor's property. Ryan takes pictures of the violation and once Inspector Hinks confirms that a violation has occurred Ryan prepares and sends the notification letters to the property owners. A discussion involving the size, style, condition and placement of trash containers followed as this violation is a common issue. Inspector Hinks noted that it would improve the trash container issue if the town had set costs and specific specs for the containers that allow for trash can and recycling container storage and are easy for the trash service to

remove. Since the CEC designed the original trash container flyer, setting standards may be something to work on jointly. In addition, Sue Callaway asked that Ryan review the CEC's multiple property maintenance flyers to see if any updates are needed. CEC would like to send updated flyers to property owners in the spring 2020. The CEC appreciated the opportunity to discuss one of the areas of CEC focus with the Code Enforcement officials.

Update from Department of Public Works:

The group reviewed the maintenance town report and Rick Gentile updated members on their current tasks. He noted that the holiday lights on utility poles were installed and that the other Christmas decorations would be installed the week of November 18th. Rick is working on raising the median circle beds to promote better plant growth.

Review, Discuss and Vote to approve DRAFT Healthy Walking Map:

The group reviewed the 2nd draft of the Healthy Walking Map. Final comments were made and Sue will provide InstaSigns with the changes. After a motion by Bobbe Stephan and a 2nd by Donna Farrow, the group voted to approve the preparation of 5 18" x 24" signs with an installation date of Earth Day, 2020. *Changes sent to InstaSigns, 11/20/19*

Ocean Drive Art Program and Photography/Art Exhibit:

Details regarding these upcoming two initiatives were discussed. Previous instructions were reviewed as well as changes to the previous process. Both initiatives will include both original artwork and photography and will feature South Bethany and local DE coastal scenes. Sue will reach out to previous participants to assess their interest in participating in the 2020 initiative. A review of the FY 20 budget includes 8 new art boards for Ocean Drive and if funds are approved for FY 21 for 8 more, all beach access ways will have new art boards. The group agreed to keep the original boards and mix them with new ones in 2021. Sue will follow up with Damon Pla regarding the scanning of original artwork. Informational emails recruiting new participants will be sent out in early 2020.

Preliminary discussion of FY21 CEC Budget items and proposed initiatives:

Carol Stevenson provided information about the new lighting of the median initiated by DelDOT in response to concerns about pedestrian and bicycle safety along coastal route 1. In response to Carol's inquiries, she learned that for an additional cost by the town, DelDOT will install power and attachments that would allow the town to display holiday lights in the median rather than along the west side, as well as decorative flags. The CEC agreed to discuss this proposal further at the December meeting when specific costs and details are confirmed. Sue requested that CEC members prepare to bring any new proposal requests to the 12/11/19 CEC meeting.

Plans for December 11th meeting and holiday party:

The CEC will meet at 9:30 am to prepare DRAFT 2021 CEC Budget. They will adjourn at 11:30 to prepare for holiday party. A motion was made by Carol Stevenson and a second by Donna Farrow to adjourn the meeting at noon.

Email invitation sent to town staff on 11/19/19.