

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2021**

The March 16, 2021 meeting of the Planning Commission was held through an authorized telecommunication device provided by Zoom Video Communications.

Mr. Lamperski called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Roll call:

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Wayne Chang.....present
Laura Coombs.....present
Colin Lampark.....present
Blaine Lamperski, Chairpersonpresent
Robert O’Connorpresent
Robert Schupansky..... absent
Stephen Winikoff, Vice Chairperson.....present

ENGINEER:

Sid Mistri, Senate Engineering Company absent

SOLICITOR:

Alyssa Golfieri, Babst Calland.....present

STAFF

Tim Phillips, Building/Zoning Officialpresent
Tara Roth, Planning Commission Secretarypresent
Rege Ebner, Borough Manager.....present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lamperski asked for a motion to approve the February 16, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. Winikoff moved to approve the minutes of February 16, 2021, seconded by Mr. O’Connor and carried.

OLD BUSINESS –

Comprehensive Plan Review

Mr. Ebner, Borough Manager, was present once again to discuss the Request for Proposal they are working on jointly with Ohio Township as a multi-municipal plan. This was sent to Ohio Township for their review. Ohio Township’s Planning Commission met the night before (March 15, 2021) and Mr. Ebner should be hearing from them and expects to have an answer for the PC by tomorrow (March 17, 2021).

Mr. Edward Engler of 1618 Blackburn Heights Drive thanked the Planning Commission and Borough Council for the job they are doing with the comprehensive plan. He also stated he would like to help out with this planning. Mr. Lamperski thanked him and stated they would appreciate any help he could be.

Ordinance Review Chapter 212-1901.I Animal Husbandry – chickens.

This is the 3rd month the PC has been discussing the changes to be made to this Ordinance Chapter 212.1901.I Animal Husbandry-chickens. Last month the Planning Commission discussed the changes they would recommend to Borough Council regarding the ordinance on chickens and Councilmember Luke Myslinski was present to give Council's feedback to the PC.

There was a discussion about what to change: setbacks, minimum acreage, number of chickens allowed, which zoning districts allowed. They were discussing changing minimum acreage to 2 acres and extending to all zoning districts; setbacks would be 30' rear, 30' sides and 5' behind rear wall of the principal dwelling; maximum of 4 chickens per acre. They discussed other matters such as distance from wells; storage of the waste; composting; coop requirements and construction; no roosters; no free-range; proper care for the chickens; they cannot become a nuisance; selling and slaughtering prohibited. Mr. Lampark suggested contacting Allegheny County Health Department & Conservation District to ask about their recommendation for wells. Ms. Golfieri will draft an ordinance for the PC to review by next month.

Mr. Lamperski asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments. Charles & Phoebe Horton of 1654 Farmington Court and Benjamin Meyers of 2533 Fairmount Church Road both wanted to state their opinions on this chicken ordinance. They both are eagerly looking forward to having chickens. They appreciate the protection of the neighbors of people having chickens and like the no roosters and no free-range regulations, while allowing as many people as possible who want to have chickens. Mrs. Horton did not want the number of chickens to be changed from 10 per acre to 4 per acre. Mr. Meyers thinks the setbacks should be the driving force. He believes the 30' setbacks would well protect the neighbors. He advised, chickens are flock animals, and you should not have any less than 4 chickens.

Mr. Lamperski suggested they table this until next month and after reviewing the draft ordinance from Ms. Golfieri, they can make their recommendation at that time.

NEW BUSINESS – NONE

GOOD & WELFARE –

Mr. Winikoff asked about the Festival in the Park for this year. Mr. Ebner advised they are proceeding with this and playing it by ear at this time. Right now, they would encourage people to wear masks and social distance. If another surge happens then there is a possibility this would be cancelled once again.

MOTION TO ADJOURN -

Mr. Lamperski asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Coombs moved to adjourn at 9:08 p.m., seconded by Mr. O'Connor and passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Tara Roth
Planning Commission Secretary
Audience: 4