

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm.

Open public comment:

Ann Wild (Chair, Community Relations) presented information on Neighborhood Watch (NW). In brief, NW is organized with block captains each of whom would be responsible for ten houses. The captains have a heavy time commitment. Scott Egloff is the main coordinator for NW. Ann also advocated more communication of security events/crimes to residents.

Tom Brant (Woodside Place) expressed growing security concerns including crimes at 5 homes among the 10 on the street, broken car window, home invasion in Kensington. In general, he senses an increase in crime, potentially related to the economy.

Security:

Arthur Schatzkin summarized the presentation by Bill Pritchard, Dave Eason and him to the Town Council on 1/9/09. The Council requested additional information, specifically:

- Investigation of other models

- Crime statistics

- Budget details

That information is being collected for the next Council meeting on March 11. Arthur agreed that combining forces with the NW would be productive.

Parks:

- Land Use Committee is studying potential greenspace in the Town.

- Leland Center:** Scheduled to open in April.

- Elm Street Playground:** The hotel will need to landscape but the park is not slated for renovation. They have discussed equipment and fencing for a playground for 2-5 yo children with an estimated cost of \$100,000, possibly funded by the Town. Montgomery would provide new chips annually. This should be discussed at the upcoming budget meetings.

Traffic:

Scott DeCain reported on the site visits with Joe Cutro and Michael Lebowitz. The 6 priority items are:

1. Traffic through the Leland Center: potential solutions were discussed.
2. Leland/East/Thornapple. Recommendations are expected at the March meeting.
3. Speed Cameras. This may require additional traffic data. Speed display signs may be an interim step.
4. Leland and 44th: a rotary is being considered as an entry feature.
5. Traffic light on East-West Highway to facilitate egress from the Town.

6. Do Not Enter sign north on Maple Avenue at Aspen
Bari Schwartz provided comments on the need for resident review and involvement in the process of evaluating and changing options for traffic changes.

Street Lights:

John Barnes stated he and Warren Rizzi will attend a meeting on February 20 between several local municipalities and a Philadelphia street lighting firm. Approaches to working with firms and potential ancillary benefits (security, better lighting) were discussed.

Water Run-off:

Andy Friemuth introduced a proposal to give resident's property a review by the water engineer, similar to the arborist program. This would enhance the Town's understanding of private residence issues.

Announcements:

Town budget meeting March 25th

Next PSC Agenda will parallel this business.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 10, 2009