



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

RESIDENTIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE MEETING

February 5, 2024, at 10 a.m.

Town Hall

Minutes

Members Present: Janice Bortner (Zoom), Susan Brennan (Zoom), Sharon Harris (Zoom), Rose Mary Hoy (Zoom), Cindy Kerns (Zoom), Shaughnessy Pierce (Zoom), Stu Rubenstein (Zoom)

Other Participants: Cecelia Bergner (Zoom), Jamie Frank (Zoom); Tim Frank (Zoom), Natalie Magdeburger (Zoom), Scott Mumford, Kate Norman (Zoom); Ann Riley (Zoom), Charles Reinert (Zoom), George Stone (Zoom)

Staff: Pat Schuchman, Lori Dabbondanza, Mike Locke, Chief Mike Morrissey

Flag Salute & Call to Order

1. Discussion and Action

a. Green Infrastructure Working Group

- i. Participation in Earth Day festivities hosted by the Environmental Committee
Janice noted that the Green Infrastructure Working Group Environmental Committee is planning several events on Earth Day. Everyone was encouraged to participate in those events. More information is posted on the Town website.
- ii. Distribution of information regarding how to use green infrastructure to mitigate flooding, help with drainage and benefit the environment.
Janice shared the Green Infrastructure Working Group ...would like to share with people on Earth Day. Sharon Harris discussed an article that was in Coastal Point about why native plants are important.
- iii. The planting of a tree in the Pollinator Garden to celebrate Arbor Day

b. Dark Sky Working Group (Rose Mary Hoy)

Rose Mary Hoy discussed the lamp posts on S. Schulz Rd. She thanked Pat Schuchman and Mike Locke for their quick response on the issue. Delmarva has discussed shielding that Delmarva and has also discussed possible replacement of the light posts. Pat Schuchman added that out of 6 options that were shared with us, we narrowed the options down to 2. Those options were shared with meeting participants. Based on the options shared, Pat noted that we have decided to go with the Arlington option. Discussion followed. Current



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lighting is invasive, and the height is of issue. This new option is a lower wattage option and is a shorter height. Rose Mary Hoy questioned the Kelvins rating and asked if Pat can confirm that for her. Jamie Frank asked if the Dark Skies Initiative ...Chief Morrissey added that he would be opposed to total removal of the light for safety reasons. He shared that he believes the wattage of the new option would be sufficient and satisfactory for residents. Jamie Frank noted that she would like to see the actual light...

George Stone noted his work with Dark Skies and would ask if either of these fixtures are endorsed by Dark Skies Initiatives. He also asked for the color selection of the bulb to lower the Kelvin. He wants to make sure Dark Skies are being considered with the selection process. Rose Mary Hoy – Talk to Delmarva about Kelvin for the Arlington and ask if there are any examples of the lamp post around this area for those that want to drive out and look at. Chief invited committee members to drive through his neighborhood to look at the lighting example.

c. Welcome Packets (Cindy Kern)

Volunteers needed to coordinate information and distribution and work with IT to get the new information on our website.

Shaughnessy Pierce and Cindy Kerns has offered to help staff and committees with maintenance and preparation of the welcome packets.

2. Old Business

Benches on Bunting – Janice discussed a smaller, 4ft. bench with a plaque that can be purchased. Perhaps a lottery system would have to be used. Janice indicated that she'd like to take this back to Council for consideration. Discussion followed. Mike Locke noted that the location would have to be as close to Bunting as possible and facing where the cars are parked on the beach ends. Sharon Harris/ Rose Mary Hoy motioned to take the new bench options back to Council for consideration. Discussion followed. What is the number of proposed benches? We would look for public discussion and input and Town staff would be included from a safety and placement perspective. Chief and Mike Locke will evaluate each street and come back to the committee with some options.

Janice Bortner spoke on behalf of Jack Pyne regarding an earlier discussion concerning Armed Forces and First Responder banners on the poles outside of Town Hall. Janice noted that he would like to solicit interest from residents, perhaps through a survey that can be shared on the website. This issue will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Trash company – what is going on with the trash company and have been instructed to turn the cans over.

3. New Business

None



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4. Public Participation

Scott Mumford noted that DNREC has indicated that their funding for beach replenishment will run out in about 5 years. They are conducting a study that would ask municipalities to fund beach replenishment. This is a huge concern. He urged everyone to stay engaged and aware of what's going on. Discussion followed. Natalie Magdeburger noted that this has been on the ACT's radar and we have submitted a response through that. A report is expected around August. Public comment may be available around March or April. We will keep the website updated as well as post information in the Message from the Mayor. We think this may be a prequel to the windfarms issue and may be used in the push for windfarms. There are lots of twists and turns. Each coastal town is preparing a response.

5. Future Meeting March 4, 2024, at 10 a.m.

6. Adjourn

Stu Rubenstein/Sharon Harris