

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
WORKSHOP MEETING
OCTOBER 4, 2012

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Workshop Meeting on Thursday, October 4, 2012, in the Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 p.m., followed by a pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Greg Philips, Greg Waks, Erika Spott, Bill Jenaway and Carole Kenney. Also present were: Ron Wagenmann, Township Manager; David Kraynik, Township Manager Designee; Joseph McGrory, Township Solicitor; Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager; and Angela Caramenico.

DISCUSSIONS:

TRICENTENNIAL UPDATE

Ms. Judy Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager, provided an update on Tricentennial preparations.

An initial discussion centered on the sponsorship forms and the most optimal way to secure higher amounts.

Additional highlights:

- all the commemoratives are in (calendar, ornaments, buttons, T-shirts, Upper Merionopoly) with the exception of the cookbook which is going to print in October, the history book due in November and the golf shirts
- looking into wooden replica cutouts of historical buildings such as Christ Church, the Memorial Arch and the King of Prussia Inn
- looking into magnetic logo decal for cars
- banners are in
- working on Atrium display cases for commemorative items
- Tricentennial/Community Day parade is scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2013
- Once parade route has been finalized will submit PennDOT application
- Inquiry made to Fralinger String Band and 25 musicians and a captain will cost total of \$2,500. The band will provide their own transportation and meal
- guitar lessons are being relocated from old Park and Recreation Office for use by Tricentennial Committee

- volunteers completed inventory
- next Tricentennial Committee meeting scheduled for October 17th

Mrs. Kenney stated the Tricentennial domain name is www.uppermerion300.org.

Mr. Waks suggested also obtaining domain names with .com and Mr. Philips suggested .net that can be automatically redirected.

Mrs. Kenney noted the “click and pay” is being set up to facilitate online purchases and donations.

Mr. Waks suggested Eric Goldstein as a good feedback resource for the “click and pay” as the Business Improvement District has used this for their King of Prussia Beerfest.

A discussion followed with regard to using the Tricentennial logo on township letterhead for all of next year.

Mrs. Spott indicated good progress has been made. She suggested that donations should be a topic for discussion at the October 17th meeting.

Ms. Vicchio noted that she is working on a volunteer subcommittee to secure additional volunteers and promote sales at various events as suggested by Mrs. Kenney.

ZONING UPDATES

Mr. Joseph McGrory, Township Solicitor, stated Children’s Hospital is settling on their property with Mr. Maloomian at the end of the year. The applicant’s attorney, Denise Yarnoff, Esq., will have to issue a zoning opinion that what is being proposed complies with zoning. The applicant has requested a preliminary opinion saying this use falls in a section of the ordinance that has been problematic for the township for years. Before issuing a preliminary opinion, Mr. McGrory is recommending an ordinance change that has been intended for many years. It is proposed to clarify hospital, medical office and medical clinic. The differentiation between a clinic and a medical office would be a transfer agreement with a nearby hospital.

Mr. McGrory explained the urgency in passing the ordinance and the various reviews and advertising requirements in order to have the ordinance on the agenda for the November meeting.

Mr. Philips asked what district would apply in this case. Mr. McGrory responded it is being considered for the C-1 District and a discussion followed whether it should be in C-1 and AR Districts.

Mr. McGrory asked the Board for their tacit approval to advertise before the November meeting so that the various timelines can be met.

Mr. Jenaway asked about pharmacies with medical related facilities, and Mr. Loeper responded that could always be picked up in another ordinance. Mr. McGrory asked Mr. Loeper to bring this up at the regular staff zoning ordinance meeting held on Mondays at 2 p.m.

Mr. McGrory noted that the lighting ordinance has been completed.

Mr. Loeper indicated the lighting ordinance has been to both planning commissions and all changes have been made.

Mr. Waks stated several municipalities have LED signs to let people know what is going on, and the Media Board is doing some preliminary research in looking at using this as a possible means of communication, keeping in mind the sensitivity about bright lights.

Mr. McGrory indicated he has done a 40-page paper on electronic signage which he will share with the Media Board.

Referring back to the CHOP issue, Mrs. Spott asked what the building is going to look like. Mr. Loeper responded it will be a four-story building and built in two phases.

A discussion followed about the issues associated with the main entrance for CHOP at North Gulph Road.

With regard to student housing, Mr. McGrory commented that student housing and zoning are always a challenge because there are different ways to address it. Mr. McGrory said he found the best way to stop student housing from getting out of control is with police powers since the problematic issues are crimes.

RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Mr. Kraynik stated there are thirty-five eligible employees for the Retirement Incentive Program. The letter has been prepared and updated by the Director of Human Resources. It offers the same options that have been offered in the past. Mr. Kraynik noted that this plan is not anticipated to be offered again in the near future. He said if the letter goes out on a timely basis with employee responses by November 15, it can be addressed from a budgetary standpoint and provide sufficient time to prepare.

Mr. Philips asked for clarification about eligibility. Mr. Fred Santoro, Director of Human Resources, responded it is a combination of age and years of service and seventy-five is the qualifier.

Mr. Kraynik commented eligible employees would provide their responses by November 15th and the separation date would be no later than end of the first

quarter of 2013. As has been offered in the past, employees would have seven days to change their mind.

Mr. Kraynik commented based on the conversations he has had with a number of people it was indicated that this will be a benefit to both the township and the eligible employees.

Mrs. Spott stated this is acceptable as long as it is just limited to the following year.

Mr. Kraynik indicated if the retirement incentive is acceptable with the Board of Supervisors, it will proceed as previously discussed.

Without further comment from the Board, Mr. Santoro indicated the letters would be sent out on Monday, October 8th.

ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved by Mr. Philips, seconded by Mr. Jenaway, all voting "Aye" to adjourn the workshop meeting at 10:00 p.m.. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

RONALD G. WAGENMANN
SECRETARY-TREASURER/
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

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Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: