

# Ashton Village Center Implementation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

July 16, 2024

## **Implementation Advisory Committee Members Present:**

- Amy Medd - Chair
- Nadine Mort – Recording Secretary
- Lianne Clements
- Stephen Faehner
- Paul Mangus
- Kathleen Wheeler
- Jessica Sidar Roth
- Kathleen Wheeler

## **Implementation Advisory Committee Members Absent:**

- Julia Roberts
- Chelsea Hughes
- James Meehan (attending GOCA to bring back insights)

## **Additional Attendees**

- Jamey Pratt – Park and Planning Department
- Jewru Bandeh – Director East County Regional Services Center

Called to order at 7:05

## Agenda

- 1) Welcome to new members Stephen Faehner and James Meehan
- 2) The current officers were unanimously reelected and will continue to serve.
- 3) The May 21st draft minutes were reviewed and accepted.
- 4) The proposed Korean Mission Church development application on Ashton Road was discussed.
  - The Committee looked at where it is in the process in the real time tracker on MCATLAS
  - Nadine reported that this project was discussed at the SSCA and their members decided to write a letter of concern to the planning board regarding environmental dangers, traffic congestion and safety and degradation of the rural character of the area. Some of those members went to the DRC meeting as observers.
  - It was noted that the staff report in about a month which should deal with PB staff concerns.



- It was suggested that if there are concerns about the traffic, we should send those to the M-NCPPC Lead Reviewer:
    - [Jonathan.Casey@montgomeryplanning.org](mailto:Jonathan.Casey@montgomeryplanning.org)
  - It was noted that this site is outside of the IAC sector, but the traffic would affect all of Ashton and beyond.
  - Jewru suggested other ways (in addition to Planning Board meetings or sending in comments) to provide input prior to final Planning Board vote. He also thought we might invite the planner to come to the IAC meeting or to the neighborhood that is impacted. This invite could be done through Jamey, Jewru or through the regional office.
  - The Committee voted to send a letter to the PB. Nadine will draft a letter of concern regarding environmental dangers, traffic congestion and safety and degradation of the rural character of the area. The draft letter will be sent to committee members for approval
  - Stephen brought up concerns about parking in Ashton. He noted that Ashton Market/Porter Road clearly doesn't have enough parking and that people probably don't know that an overflow area exists
  - Consider cc Dawn Luedtke and the at-large members of the County Council and the East County regional office (Jewru) board. Jewru can help with the CC line. Nadine will call Jewru: 240-304-8075
  - the CC's first board meeting is the first Wednesday in Sept? Perhaps some members could go to that board meeting to express the concern. Nadine will follow up.
  - Noted:
    - Development Review Search - Plan Number 120240050 (mcatlas.org)
- 5) Discussion of the below items deferred from the prior meeting but were not discussed because Chelsea had a medical emergency and was unable to attend.
- a) Consideration of community engagement with local nonprofits
  - b) Sandy Spring Meadows rec center project
  - c) Smoke shop/tarot card reading store construction project in Sandy Spring (presumably 905 Olney Sandy Spring Road)
- Nadine will contact Chelsea to encourage her to work with the Sandy Spring Civic Association.
- 6) Any Other Business (AOB)
- A question came up about the future of the Cricket Book Shop site. Kathleen said that it will be an office for a business. Stephen said the owner's name is Todd Wick.
  - Members of the committee again expressed concern about the lack of parking and pedestrian safety.
  - Kathleen asked if the new movement about attainable housing will have any effect on any development of the southeast corner.

The next meeting is September 17th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13.

