

BYRAM TOWNSHIP ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES, MAY 13, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 p.m. Present were Chairman Vince Gallo, Susan Mirz, Andrea Proctor, Carol Barry, Lisa Shimamoto, John Morytko, Eric Serrilli, and Margaret McGarrity (also acting as secretary).

The March 11, 2015 minutes were approved: motion by Margaret; second by Eric; unanimous.

Correspondence and updates:

Article on 10 great small towns in NJ: What are the attractions of Byram? Margaret reported that the Salt Shakers Running Club seems to have found one answer---they attracted 74 people to their most recent weekly run and their members volunteer on trail work-days throughout the year, mostly in Byram, as well as raise money for charity and sponsor trail-construction workshops.

Recreational Trails Grant: Andrea submitted a \$24,000 application for a trail connecting Waterloo Village (in Byram) with the concert field (in Allamuchy). Andrea is the ‘site historian’ at Waterloo (officially, the “Interpretive Specialist of Historic Resources”).

Waterloo does not promote the various events held there—each event is promoted by its organizers. Andrea will send a list of upcoming events to Eric (who is on the Township’s Economic Development Advisory Committee). Ideas: help local businesses advertise at the events or in partnership with the organizers; get a single person to organize/promote Waterloo events in partnership with the Township; inform Waterloo/event organizers what kind of in-town signs are permitted for special events; Margaret will ask if Waterloo events can be put on Township website.

Denville transit village: Vince reported that this project provides some good architectural ideas.

New sign ordinance: Adopted April 21; effective May 11. What will happen regarding the existing violations?

Business:

Historic preservation workshop: Andrea gave a presentation and brought back extensive documentation, which Margaret emailed to all and also copied for her office library. Andrea gave the same presentation to the Planning Board.

The workshop covered:

- How to integrate historic preservation with planning and zoning;

- What the NJ Municipal Land Use Law says about historic preservation—40:55D(1-14) permits municipalities to have a Local Landmarks Ordinance even if they have no Historic Preservation Committee; sites do not need to be on State or federal historic registers to be considered worthy of preservation, although this helps to get funding;
- The Historic Preservation Element in the Master Plan can establish local recognition of important sites;
- Towns that become “Certified Local Governments” (a designation obtained from the National Park Service) can get \$60,000- 90,000 annually to research and designate sites or to apply for State/federal registry recognition (currently in Byram, the Cut-off, Waterloo Village and some of its individual buildings and structures are on State/federal registers);
- Historic sites or places can be a building a structure, an area, or a sense of time or place (such as Byram’s different lake communities);
- The Planning Board and/or Historic Preservation Committee can make these decisions or propose a preservation plan.

Planning Board:

- Byram Car Wash memo: the ARC agreed to send the final draft of this memo to the Planning Board, copied to the Zoning Officer.
- Cartridge Actuated Devices application: The ARC will send a memo to the Planning Board saying they have no comments on this application.
- Jefferson Lake Day Camp application: Margaret will ask the Planning Board secretary to email the architectural drawings to the ARC, and Lisa will draft a short memo in support of this aspect of this application.
- Consolidated School apartments: The ARC will send a memo to the Planning Board asking that the Board recommend that the developer meet with the ARC as early as possible.
- Quick Chek gas station proposal for 206/Brookwood Road: at its June meeting, the ARC will discuss the plans with the applicant. There was a brief discussion about possible issues surrounding this upcoming application, many elements of which do not comply with the Master Plan:
 - ✓ it is a prohibited use;
 - ✓ it is automobile, rather than pedestrian, oriented;
 - ✓ it is set back from the road;
 - ✓ the canopy is huge (roughly five times the size of the Shell canopy across the street);
 - ✓ the pumps are nearest the road, with the building at the back;
 - ✓ there will be issues of light and noise pollution.

ARC members brought photos of other Quick Chek gas stations, particularly at the intersection of Routes 94 and 15.

No Net Loss \$317,554 tree planting grant: Margaret provided an updated time frame for this grant. The grant agreement must first be signed by the Township and NJDEP (probably by June or July); then we have 54 months to plant 1,058 trees and have them survive for 2 years. We can use the first year to draw a general planting plan and then hire a contractor to do a detailed planting plan and handle all the rest of the work.

Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC): Eric reported that the Byram Business Owners Association (BBOA) will meet on Wednesday May 20 at the Trout and Troll restaurant on Lackawanna Drive. Eric will send a summary of the meeting and report to the ARC next month. Some of the EDAC's discussions:

- A pilot program for tax credits to promote improvements to local businesses;
- The development of BBOA's Face Book page;
- The update of the schedule of tasks laid out in the Township's Smart Growth Plan.

Route 206 landscaping: ARC members noted that much of the landscaping is dead or in poor condition and wondered if the existing landscaping complies with the approved plans.

Adjourn: 10:10 p.m. Motion by Lisa; second by John.