

Mayor & Council of Sharpsburg

Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 3, 2023

6 PM

MEETING MINUTES Approved 05/01/2023

- I. Call meeting to order and pledge--Robbie led the pledge and we had a moment of silence.
- II. Minutes and March expenses approval--Robbie motioned, Ed second all were in favor
- III. In attendance: Russ Weaver, Robbie Waters, Joe Kudla (via zoom), Tim Lung (via zoom), Jake Martz, Ed Beeler, Heather Waters, Al Mason from DSL, Perry Jamieson, and Carrie Estell

Public Comments--Mr. Jamieson "Go forward and do good things!"

Zoning-Tim Lung (critical items-via ZOOM)

- Have ben corresponding with owner of property at 204 E. Main Street about establishing an owner-occupied short-term rental. Property is Zoned TR. A special exception application would need to be filed with the Board of Zoning Appeals. Some paperwork has been submitted but need additional information and the filing fee paid.
- Prepared draft Zoning Ordinance text amendments for regulation of portable storage containers as requested by the Mayor & Council. Also drafted text amendments to re-insert language regarding fences and walls, and established a definition of a "block" for use in the Short-Term rental section of the Ordinance. The Planning Commission should review the draft amendments and prepare a recommendation to the Council prior to a public hearing. Recommend that the first reading of the text amendments be made no later than the May meeting based on the 120-day moratorium that was established last month. Planning Commission to meet to adopt and/or edit; first reading to be in May to coincide with the moratorium. Russ will call Patty to get a planning meeting scheduled. If he does not call by Friday, Tim will remind him to try to schedule.
- Received a Zoning certificate and sign permit application for a soap and candle business at 100 E. Main Street. Holding application for verification of change of use from the County and payment of the 35\$ permit fee.
- Meet with Jill baker, County Planning Director regarding the status of the County Comprehensive Plan update. Draft Plan to be provided to the Planning Commission in early May with the Plan to be available to the Public by late May. Planning Commission may consider holding public information meetings at various locations in the County.
- Researching the permitting requirements for the Big Spring wall restoration project. Prepared time estimate to be included in the grant application.
- Responded to an inquiry regarding permitting requirements to locate another cell antenna for T-Mobile on the County water tank.

Mayor's Comments

MML dinner was a great success, the church did a fantastic job and thank you all for pitching in and attending.

Projects

- Wells-still in county council office
 - Town Hall-many problems fixed which were not planned/budgeted for that included: Sewer, outdoor wiring, sprinkler system, alarm services. The town clock needs to be synchronized; CR electric will try to do this.
- Community/Playground Park
 - Parents paid for shed damage
 - Electrical power added for cameras
- Historic/Pocket Park
 - Waiting on Project Open Space funding
 - Detail design on hold with FSA pending POS decision
 - Wayside Design session in plan-develop a wayside exhibit proposal which identifies wayside topic, theme, location, base style, direction of view and a preliminary list of proposed graphics, images artwork and/or maps.
- Historic Walls-scheduled for clean-up and repointing this summer
- Big Spring-Found resource for mitigation work and use a local non-certified contractor, plan for RW Properties to do the work. Cleaning area of old shed. Fencing under contract as required by sales contract.
- Legislative Session in Annapolis-parking legislation passed House of Delegates, out of committee on Senate side. This law should take into effect in October. State Delegation asked for bonding issues.
- Streets & General Maintenance-list of projects for the rest of the FY provided by Joe to be worked off before 07/07/023. Researching asphalt options.
- Planning-time to kick off comprehension, need to be actively integrated into and critiquing the County's comprehension plan.

Formation of Community Development Committee-better with networking with town and town's organizations and community groups.

Importance of Comprehensive Planning – meeting in Sharpsburg

Preferred vendors-if work is being done; we want to help companies/vendors that have helped out community. Please ask Russ when out sourcing any jobs.

Council reports (written reports, need for: financial approval, council input or for council to know)

Robbie Waters-Installed ADA tables and finished concrete pads at the pond, fine graded around pads and grass seeded areas at the pond, scheduled stocking of pond for Friday, the 28th and the pond will be closed to the public until the Fishing Rodeo on Saturday, April 29th from 7 am – 10 am, drew up design and submitted dock proposal, completed trench work at the playground park for camera installation, started removing old playground equipment and concrete to get ready for new playground equipment. There were a few questions about the shed; Carrie brought up the type of material on the left side to be a panel for a mural that would be the end of the story walk. Russ liked the idea and stated that he spoke with Jon Bonnard about possible young artists to assist with the project and possible art on the blacktop.

Jacob Martz-Testified before Environment and Transportation committee in support of HB 1194, purchased flag spreaders for flags in council chamber, purchased new microphone for podium, preparation for Memorial Day Parade - received official approval from WCPS to use elementary school campus for parade staging, received 5K grant from Hotel Rental Tax Fund, purchased lapel pins with town seal, purchased new flags and poles to replace all along Main Street, Jennifer Silbert to sing National Anthem in place of Betty Snyder, next meeting is scheduled for April 4th at 6 pm.

Ed Beeler-Attendance for March: 193

Youth Day @ the Museum will be on April 22 from 10-4 @ SMH

no donations but I am working on Accession and Cataloging the Boyer Collection

Upcoming events: Women of Sharpsburg - June 10th 1-4 & Founder's Day Open House - July 8th 10-4

Joe Kudla-(via ZOOM)-will reach out to Verizon to fix hanging wires and the brick work that needs to be repaired. May or June to have MEMA and WCFD to present information on emergency issues. Joe to invite. Street cleaning date will be before the parade.

Mia Parsons-not present

John Hammond- not present

Community Partners

- **Officer Tracey Peyton** (submitted electronically) Patrol Checks-Park-13, Ballfield-5, school-9, Antietam Station-11, Traffic Enforcement 3 hours-2 citations, 1 warning, foot parol-3 hours, parking complaints, 1 citation 2 warnings.
- **Chris Vincent**-Antietam Advisory board-not present-electronically submitted
- The committee met on Wednesday, March 8, 2023.
- Superintendent Trail started out the meeting to announce that she will be retiring from the National Park Service on March 31. She has been with the NPS for over forty years, serving eight years as superintendent at Monocacy NB and superintendent at Antietam since 2012. During this transition period, the interim superintendent will rotate between the park division chiefs. The selected process of a new superintendent may take up to a year.
- The park is drafting the Strategic Plan for 2023 – 2026. The primary intent of this strategic plan is to articulate an overarching vision for Antietam National Battlefield and to create a framework for setting goals and prioritizing work for the next three to four years. Three main goals the plan will focus on is Safety, Preserve and Protect the battlefield, and Visitor Services and Enhancing Visitor Experience. Once the plan is complete it will be shared with the committee.
- Due to issues with the sidewalk grading, drainage, solar panels, and the elevator; the rehabilitation project of the Visitor's Center has been delayed. These issues are being worked and most likely the opening will be in this summer. The plan is to have an official ribbon cutting on Friday, September 15.
- The new orientation film, which will be approximately 23 minutes is in the editing phase now. The film is expected to be completed by the end of 2023.
- Other Projects: HPTC continues to work on the preservation project at the Piper farm and at the David R. Miller house on the windows and porch. The trace road at the Burnside Bridge will be resurfaced to make it more accessible for handicap visitors.
- Two major projects this year will be the resurfacing of all the park roads and the National Cemetery rehabilitation which includes tree removal, pruning, and new planting as well as monument cleaning and repair work.
- Sup. Trail discussed the future of the Salute to Independence event. After conducting a risk assessment review, they felt the Salute cannot be held in the current format without significant improvements to visitor safety and sustainability. The Park will be working with the Maryland Symphony Orchestra in professionally facilitated meetings, to see if the event could be held in a safe and adequate manner that meets the needs of stakeholders, visitors, and the requirements of the park.
- The next meeting is scheduled for June 14th, 2023.

Old Business/ACTIONS:

- Moving forward with Big Spring-Russ, Robbie and Tim have met with town of Boonsboro to ask about water mitigation. The amount to fix and reroute water will not be too much. There is a good chance we will receive grant money for the restoration work. Since the area is not in the flood plain, permitting should be fairly easy and Tim can get it streamlined, he knows a person at the state MDE. This work will start after July 1st Ed motioned and Jake seconded and all were in favor of going forward with the restoration work.
- Rail in front of building-some discussion about the style and material of new railing, any style can be incorporated and any ADA compliant pieces or equipment can be added. Decision to be made next month.

- Dock at pond-Picture of example and blueprints were discussed, Robbie described the material and hardware. Dock and ramp were discussed in detail, (trex boards for most the deck and ramp, pressure treated wood for railings, easily accessible), supplies and labor are less than 6k. Ed motioned, Joe seconded and all were in favor of RW Properties to complete the dock. This project will be done after the fishing rodeo.
- Signage-new signs for community
- Sign on High Street

New Business

- April 22nd at 10 am a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Story Walk, crafts, refreshments
- April 22nd from 10 am to 4 pm Youth Day at the Museum, fun activities for youth all day event
- April 29th from 7 am-10 am Fishing Rodeo at the pond, ages 15 and under, prizes and food.
- Boonsboro parade entry-possibility of us participating in their parade the day after our parade.
- There are many addresses need to be made deliverable in town, there are many issues with some addresses with being able to get deliveries and applying for credit as they come up with non-deliverable addresses. (Most of these are on Antietam Street) Carrie will reach out to the Post Office to get some answers for residents who are having issues.
- Tree that needs trimming on Church and Chapline, Tim will craft a letter.

Meeting adjourned 7:10. Next mayor and council meeting scheduled for Monday, May 1, 2023, all were in favor of adjournment.