

PC 2016-08-17 Northfield Township Planning Commission

Live Transcript of Agenda Item 10-D. "short discussion of goals and objectives" - added

Dignan: ["Item D: discussion on goals and objectives."](#)

Dignan: Uh, again, I wanted to bring this before because ... in spending some time in reviewing our goals and objectives in our last 8 months of planning commission meetings, one thing kinda has become clear to me is that while we might have eleven items on our goals and objectives the way we've chosen to address the goals and objectives have been in clusters, in groupings.

Um, business oriented zoning/main street concepts was kind of consolidated into one that's going to spur into several items that we're gonna talk about.

Um, you know our third item was land use analysis. We kind of had a discussion about that and about kind of the value of whether or not a build out was of value or not. I mean we went back and forth about that a couple meetings ago about that and had discussions.

But as I look down at 4, 5, and 6, um, what I see is things that have, that are very intertwined and connected. And that is AR densities, AR surveys, and economic impacts, and PDR/TDR. And one of the things are, all three of the things affect each other, and to a large extent, whether that's greater or less density, whether that's the true economic impact of farming, or whether or not PDR/TDR is feasible or even viable in this community. With that I wanted to bring before the Planning Commission an idea of setting up an ad hoc committee of two of our members with three members from the public. And I wanted to have a discussion about that. And I don't know. My thought process is maybe a Hamlet member, someone from the rural area in the South and someone from the rural area in the east or southeast area.

I wanna throw that on the table. I wanted to get some thoughts and feedback on your guys' parts. I don't see a reason to hold this. One of the things that I really wanted to see us to is very aggressively attack our goals and objectives. I think we have the capacity on our plate to do this. I think that a committee could be beneficial in taking some of the initial steps to bringing forth some of the initial recommendations to this board. Yes, Mr. Jaquinto

Jaquinto: [Will the goals and objectives of this committee be spelled out to them so that they're not floundering?](#) To me, I'm in favor of that as long as goals and objectives are clearly spelled out, and expectations, so that they're not wasting their time.

Dignan: I think that that's absolutely something that's critically important. Um, That's something, and I haven't talked to Mr Sloan about this, but I'd like some input from him as well, on, uh, when you have an ad hoc community committee like that you need to tell them what you're asking them to do...

Jaquinto: right, and

Dignan: and to throw out those three items and say, go to it, that doesn't accomplish anything.

Jaquinto: No

Dignan: To have them truly take a look at PDR/TDR in surrounding communities and how it's worked and how it can work in cooperation with more regional authorities such as the green belt. To look at the agricultural survey and the economic impacts... I think those things can be defined in a way that the committee could provide back good analysis on those items.

Yes, Mrs. Chockley?

Chockley: [Um, yeah, it could be quite a long term evaluation.](#) If they're taking on an agricultural survey by themselves, it could take some time. And then there might/may be some staff requirements and is there any funding for that? So, um, while I think it's a great idea, we should have the parameters there for that group. And I know there are individuals out in our community who are already doing some of that work on their own so maybe it wouldn't be as long as or as labor intensive as might be immediately be evident.

Dignan: Well, what I would propose we would do is... Mr Fink, do you have something to add to that?

Fink: (sotto voce) I don't want to interrupt

Dignan: No, please do, go ahead; you're fine,

Fink: [I think this is a good idea.](#) I think it should be done and I think it should be, uh, I think it should be a formal request from the planning commission to the Board of Trustees. And the Board of Trustees should authorize it.

They should be the ones, uh, I think the Planning Commission should, in exactly the same way as the Parks and Rec Board presented to the Board of Trustees, I think the Planning Commission should create a process, and create a proposal for the number of people on that committee, and who those individuals consist of, and then, um, have that uh process and committee approved by the Board of Trustees in a formal way.

Dignan: Thank you Mr. Fink. That was my intent as well. Miss Chick?

Chick: And it is a process and I agree that you can't just throw people together and say, go do it. They have to have some guidelines and steps and this is how you're gonna do it to accomplish this to get to this end. So, we need to have that before they start on their project.

Dignan: [Ok. Mr Sloan, is that something that you and I can work together](#) and bring something to this Board so that we can work constructively together on making a formal proposal to the Township Board on what we envision here and ask for them to consider it and we're gonna have to allocate budget for it, obviously.

Sloan: Um, Yeah, absolutely we can put this on a future agenda or even the next agenda. There may not be much to prepare. Just to kinda dig out the old goals, try to consolidate them, get a discussion, you know we'll have time between now and then to kinda think about what each person may want to include with the duties and the charges, and then, um, you know, have a good discussion at the next meeting and kinda go forward from there. Um, you know, if there's a formal committee, even if it's an ad-hoc committee, it could ultimately end up on, number nine on the Agenda, as a recurring thing on every Agenda, as we go through the committees hearing from the representative or representatives of that committee just to see what's new, are they doing the things that the Planning Commission and/or Township Board wants them to be doing. So, it could be a recurring discussion.

Dignan: [And while this is in the early stages,](#) I mean, I'll venture to solicit from the community, if you have thoughts, ideas, processes, resources, any of that information that you want to share with us as we start to venture into this, please send it to the office. Our office will distribute it to the Commissioners. That information is gonna be valuable.

I know there are members in our community that have done a lot of work in this area, that have relationships that could benefit a committee like this, you know, while we are still short of asking for individuals that wanna serve on this, we will get to that point eventually. Ideas and information and scope is something we're gonna be working on and any information anyone from the community can provide will be very beneficial.

Dignan: [So, that's why I wanted it on the Agenda.](#) I don't have anything more to add to that. If there's nothing else we can move on.