

PRINCETON COUNCIL MEETING
July 14, 2014

A meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room in the municipal complex, 400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Clerk read the following statement.

The following is an accurate statement concerning the providing of notice of this meeting and said statement shall be entered in the minutes of this meeting. Notice of this meeting as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public in the form of 2014 Schedule of Regular Meetings. On January 2, 2014 at 6:45 p.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, the Torontonionian, the Town Topics, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL

The Municipal Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mesdames Butler, Crumiller, Howard and Messer Liverman, Miller,
and Mayor Lempert.

Absent: Mr. Simon.

Also Present: Ms. Monzo, Ms. Stockton, Ms. Cecil and Chief Sutter.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the minutes of April 28, 2014 as amended. Ms.

Howard seconded the motion which was carried unanimously by those present.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the minutes of May 27, 2014 as presented. Ms.

Howard seconded the motion which was carried unanimously by those present.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2014 as amended. Ms. Howard seconded the motion which was carried unanimously by those present.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Regarding Items Not on the Agenda

Ted Horodinsky, Elm Road, Lawrence, expressed concern regarding garbage issues in the downtown business district.

Daniel Harris, 28 Dodds Lane reviewed with Council a letter regarding recent COAH proposals. He urged the Mayor and Council to take the offensive against the COAH report and defend our community's historical commitment to 20% affordable housing.

(Letter appended to this set of minutes)

Joan Magee, Stony Brook Watershed, spoke in favor of the proposed tree ordinance.

Susan Colby, 26 Herrontown Circle, offered a statement in regard to the proposed Anti-Corruption Resolution and asked for Councils support for its provisions.

HEARING ON COMCAST APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF MUNICIPAL CONSENT

PRESENTATION

Princeton University Arts and Transit, Kristen Appelget

WORK SESSION

Advisory Planning District Update

Ms. Crumiller offered a status report regarding Advisory Planning Districts. She said that the Advisory Planning Districts Task Force was formed to carry out the recommendation of the Consolidation Commission, as outlined in its June 22, 2011 Report of Official Recommendations.

The Advisory Planning Districts Task Force Objectives are as follows:

- To ensure that Princeton residents have a voice in the planning, zoning, development and preservation processes impacting their neighborhoods now that Princeton is a larger community.
- To improve communication and education in Princeton neighborhoods regarding the planning, zoning, development, and preservation processes. The procedures for consolidating the former Borough and Township zoning codes provide an opportunity for communication by the Planning Board and governing body to involve residents and to explain how the planning and zoning process work and how the merger of the zoning codes might affect individual neighborhoods.

- To facilitate and encourage communication between neighborhoods and institutions and developers prior to and during the planning, zoning, development and preservation process.
- To encourage more proactive planning, zoning, development and preservation processes that improve communication with the public, and engage the community earlier in the process
- To ensure that the Master Plan and the zoning code balance institutional growth and developer initiated changes with neighborhood goals of long term integrity and stability.

Daniel Harris, 28 Dodds Lane, commended the Task force for their time and commitment in generating their set of regulations. He urged the Mayor and Council to consider the employment of additional staff for the Planning Office to implement the proposed recommendations.

Alexi Assmus, Maple Street, said that she believes that it is important to have permanent organizations to represent neighborhood interests and that long term organizations such as the Jackson Witherspoon Association may be able to interact in a constructive way with the municipality to ensure that neighborhood concerns such as new development or redevelopment, traffic, parks, and lighting are heard and acted upon.

Ms. Assmus said that she has spoken to the President and former Secretary of Charlottesville's Martha Jefferson Neighborhood Association which is very active in their college town municipality. The neighborhood associations are self-empowering with their own by laws which include neighborhood boundaries within which anyone over the age of 18 can be a member, and are recognized by the IRS as non-profits.

Mr. Miller thanked Ms. Assmus for her research. Mr. Liverman said that if we were to do anything, we should be mindful to include everyone, due to transparency.

Ryan Lillianthal, Maple Street, said that the advisory planning districts would be a mechanism to proactively engage residents.

Mayor Lempert said that she recommends that the Task Force take a look at this issue some more.

Paul Driscoll said that the Jackson Witherspoon meetings are very productive and when he sees members of Council there, it has a strong positive influence.

ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING

Landscaping Registration

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE BY PRINCETON CONCERNING LANDSCAPING REGISTRATION AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968".

Ms. Howard said that proposed ordinance is about education and will hopefully prevent more cases of wage theft in Princeton. She said that this ordinance looks at landscapers, but she said that we will be looking at other services as well.

Ross Wishnick, Chair, Human Services Commission said that wage theft is a nationwide problem that affects low wage and immigrant workers.

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing.

Linda Auerbach, Lytle Street said that there is protection of subcontractors by private homeowners.

Craig Garcia, 52 Birch said that this is common sense legislations and thanked the Mayor and Council for their Leadership with this proposed ordinance.

Some audience members, speaking Spanish and talking through an interpreter thanked the Mayor and Council for the steps they were taking. Some said that they had been victims of wage theft and that they too had rights. One speaker said that he owned a landscaping business and that the proposed ordinance would benefit him in learning about wage laws.

John Heilner, Library Place said that this was an historic moment for Princeton.

Maria Fuega said that she was thrilled to be here and offered two suggestions; one being the addition of a workers comp policy and the second putting landscaper registrants on the municipal website.

Wilma Soloman, Chair, Not In Our Town said that she was extremely proud of our community and that this represents the highest ideals of our country.

There being no further public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Howard offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

REPORTS

Monthly Police Report, Chief Sutter

Ms. Howard thanked Chief Sutter for remaining open to format comments of the monthly police reports and responding in kind. Chief Sutter and Mr. Grosser, Health Officer have been working together in regard the recent cases of rabies. Mr. Grosser said that public health and safety is paramount.

Ms. Butler thanked Chief Sutter for the juvenile narrative and looked forward to the alcohol narrative in future reports.

Ms. Crumiller asked about the Ride A Long program and how it was being received. Chief Sutter said that they have had a lot of people participate in the Ride A Long program.

Staff Reports

Ms. Monzo said that tax bills were in the process of being mailed out this week.

Ms. Butler said that pool membership is at 5392 with financial aid to 96 families.

RESOLUTIONS

14-198 Technology Strategic Review & Options

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve resolution 14-198 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

14-199 Affordable Housing Rehabilitation Loan, \$8,342.00

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve resolution 14-199 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

14-200 Authorizing the Use of State Contract for the Purchase of Police Vehicles

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve resolution 14-200 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

14-201 Public Health Nurse Case Management Services for Childhood Lead Poisoning

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve resolution 14-201 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously by those present.

14-202 Princeton Homecare, Nursing Services 2014, Not to Exceed \$9,000.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve resolution 14-202 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously by those present.

14-203 PSA; Whitman, Additional Environmental Services relating to PFARS Properties NTE \$4,350,

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve resolution 14-203 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

14-204 2013 Recycling Tonnage Grant

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve resolution 14-204 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously by those present.

14-205 PSA; Accredited Environmental Asbestos Removal Survey – 59 Meadowbrook Drive NTE \$1,130

Ms. Howard offered a motion to approve resolution 14-205 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Crumiller and carried unanimously by those present.

14-206 Transco Leidy Southeast Project – Environmental Assessment

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve resolution 14-206 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

(Resolutions Appended To This Set of Minutes)

ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARINGS

Trees and Shrubs

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE BY PRINCETON CONCERNING TREES AND SHRUBS AND THE PRINCETON SHADE TREE COMMISSION, AND

AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1974" AND THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968."

Mr. Miller offered a motion to continue the public hearing for the proposed ordinance on July 21, 2014. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

Environmental Commission

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE BY PRINCETON CONCERNING THE PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1974" AND THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968"

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Liverman offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Ms. Crumiller and carried unanimously by those present.

Sanitary Sewer Easement

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE BY PRINCETON ACCEPTING A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT ON A PORTION OF BLOCK 9301, LOT 10, PRINCETON TAX MAP

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

Bond Ordinance, Sanitary Sewer System

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN AND BY PRINCETON, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$1,515,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,439,250 BONDS OR NOTES OF PRINCETON TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

Bond Ordinance, Spring Street Garage

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR GENERAL PARKING UTILITY REPAIRS AND THE SPRING STREET GARAGE EMERGENCY POWER SYSTEM IN AND BY PRINCETON, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$95,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$95,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF PRINCETON TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Ms. Butler offered a motion to continue the public hearing for the proposed ordinance on August 11, 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously by those present.

Bond Ordinance, Various Capital Improvements

Mayor Lempert read by title an ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY PRINCETON, IN THE COUNTY OF MERCER, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$7,554,071

THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$7,176,367 BONDS OR NOTES OF PRINCETON TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

Mayor Lempert opened the public hearing.

There being no public comment, the public hearing was closed.

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on second reading. The motion was seconded by Mr. Liverman and carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE INTRODUCTIONS

No Parking Zone

Mayor Lempert read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING NO PARKING ZONE EXCEPT WITHIN DESIGNATED STALL MARKINGS IN THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968". (Public Hearing August 11, 2014)

Mr. Miller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Mr. Liverman seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for August 11, 2014.

Abandonment of a Sanitary Sewer Easement

Mayor Lempert read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ABANDONMENT OF A SANITARY SEWER LINE AND VACATION OF A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT ON BLOCK 28.03, LOTS 47.01, 47.03, 74, 76, 77, 78, 82, 83, 89, 100 AND 102 OF THE TAX MAP OF PRINCETON, AND MANDATING CONNECTION TO REPLACEMENT AND NEW SEWER LINES. (Public Hearing August 11, 2014)

Mr. Miller offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Mr. Liverman seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for August 11, 2014

July 14, 2014

10

No Parking Zone, Markham Road

Mayor Lempert read by title on first reading a proposed ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NO PARKING ZONE ON A PORTION OF MARKHAM ROAD AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1974".

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve the proposed ordinance on first reading. Ms. Crumiller seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously by those present. The public hearing was set for August 11, 2014

CONSENT AGENDA

Contains items of a routine nature, which are approved by a single vote.

a. Bills and Claims

b. Maintenance/Performance Guarantees

- Dr. Ziad Hadaya and Nada Hadaya, Minor subdivision, block 7007, Lot 4, Completion time
Extension to July 24, 2015.

c. 14-207 Fire Department Membership for Margaret Brookes.

d. Music Amplification: Annual Joint Effort Princeton Summer Basketball Classic/Princeton Safe Streets Weekend, August 15-17, 2014 at Community Park Basketball Courts, 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

e. Street Closing Request: Corner of Birch Avenue at Race Street down to the steps in the Community Park parking lot, Annual Joint Effort Princeton Summer Basketball Classic/Princeton Safe Streets Weekend, August 16, 2014, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., contingent upon approval of the Traffic Safety Officer.

f. Street Closing Request: John Witherspoon School, Super Saturday, September 20, 2014 Walnut Lane between Franklin and Guyot Avenues, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., contingent upon approval of the Traffic Safety Officer.

g. 14-208 Newspaper Vending Machine, The Princeton Sun.

h. 14-209 Permission to persons to have alcoholic beverages in a public park, Princeton Democratic Organization Family Picnic, July 20, 2014, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Harrison Street Park.

i. 14-210 Resolution Supporting Anti-Corruption Legislation.

j. Affordable Housing Permit Fee Reductions

July 14, 2014

11

Ms. Crumiller offered a motion to approve the consent agenda items “a-f, h and i” as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Butler and carried unanimously by those present.

Ms. Butler offered a motion to approve consent agenda item “g” as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried unanimously.

(Resolutions appended to this set of minutes.)

10:45 P.M.

14-211 CLOSED SESSION:

RESOLUTION
TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION
(Open Public Meetings Act Sec.3)

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of Princeton:

1. This body will now convene into a closed session that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act.

The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed in said session is as follows:

Litigation:

- Avalon Bay
- Police Lawsuit Update

Stated as precisely as presently possible, the following are the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said session can be disclosed to the public:

Within 90 days or upon settlement of litigation, if applicable

The above referenced issues were discussed by the Princeton Council.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott
Municipal Clerk

Daniel A. Harris,, 28 Dodds Lane, Princeton, NJ
Princeton Council, 7/16/14: Comments on COAH proposals

Princeton's fundamental commitment to 20% affordable housing has been our law and public policy since 1986. Our commitment is now threatened by a recent proposal from the New Jersey State Council on Affordable Housing (COAH), which states that Princeton's obligation to build any affordable housing units before 2024 is zero, zilch, none (Appendix C, p. 123). This proposal is an assault on our identity and our citizens' values. It is, as Councilman Liverman remarked, "ludicrous."

I urge Princeton Council to take the offensive against the COAH report and boldly embrace all legal measures necessary to confirm and defend our community's historical commitment to 20% affordable housing. Council should file an Open Public Records Request for the raw data for the "buildable limit capacity" on which the COAH report rests, as soon as possible. The COAH proposal is already subject to a lawsuit filed by the NJ Fair Share Housing Center, which charges both the Christie administration and Rutgers University (whose faculty helped formulate the proposal) with failing to provide the raw data behind the COAH recommendations.

No state agency should have the power to curtail Princeton's explicit desire for a diverse community. No government can maintain its credibility that does not seek to redress the needs of its citizens. Princeton's need for socio-economic justice in our housing is greater than ever. Our town must not become an enclave for those with (more than) adequate financial means—or cramped quarters for those without, those who struggle to manage.

Princeton's 20% affordable housing ordinance is particularly important now because Princeton University has pledged to donate to the municipality two lots along Franklin Street, adjacent to the old hospital site. (COAH's proposal doesn't take this donation into account.) These lots, zoned for single-family, two-family, attached dwellings and multi-family dwellings, require a 20% set-aside for affordable housing. These lots are part of what's been called "the new downtown," within walking distance of Nassau Street—where, seventy-five years ago, Edgar Palmer broached his plan for what would become Palmer Square. The Historical Society of Princeton website states, "The project, delayed until 1936 due to the Depression, included the removal of many of the homes of Princeton's poor and minority families."

Homes constructed here may well include a significant number of affordable units in a diverse neighborhood strategically important for Princeton's moral and legal commitment to socio-economic justice. The municipal government, as the property's owner, must sell to a buyer committed to 20% affordable housing—and should reject all noncompliant offers. Indeed, some people have suggested that the Princeton "cachet" should allow our officials to negotiate a higher percentage.

The waiting list for affordable housing proves the community's need (well over 200); the need for units at the "very low income" level remains undisputed. Princeton must commit to fostering socio-economic help for this entire neighborhood by defending the 20% commitment. We want those who work in Princeton to live in Princeton, not suffer exclusion.

Council must also insist that other areas, including the Thompson tract and the acreage adjoining the Princeton Shopping Center, produce a full 20% onsite affordable housing.

We are at a critical juncture. I again urge Council to take the offensive, by legal and other means, to maintain Princeton's commitment.

Daniel A. Harris
Former Trustee, People for Princeton Ridge, Inc.
Former Trustee, Princeton Citizens for Sustainable Neighborhoods

My name is Susan Colby and I live at 26 Herrontown Circle in Princeton. I wish to make a very brief statement on behalf of the Anti-Corruption Resolution on the Consent Agenda as background for the Members of this Council.

Tonight, we are asking you to affirm your support for the provisions of this Resolution urging the U.S. Congress and the New Jersey State Legislature to enact tough new anti-corruption laws. In doing so, you as an Official Government Body would be stating your determination to end an era where Big Money and unregulated Super PACs exert dangerous levels of dominance over our representative democracy. This resolution is part of a national effort of Represent.Us, of which I am a member and local team co-leader for Congressional District 12, to build grassroots support for comprehensive campaign finance reform. Beginning at the local level is the first step in building this national consensus. As local residents and citizen-activists, I and my colleagues are pleased to present Princeton with this opportunity to become the first municipality in New Jersey and in the nation to adopt this resolution.

I will leave a copy of this Anti-Corruption Resolution with the Clerk and Members of the Press. Thank you very much.

Susan Colby
609.688.0336
scolby42@verizon.net

Advisory Planning Districts Task Force Status Report

July 8, 2014

The Advisory Planning Districts Task Force was formed to carry out the recommendation of the Consolidation Commission, as outlined in its June 22, 2011 Report of Official Recommendations:

***Advisory Planning Districts:** The Commission recommends that during the transition year (i.e. between an affirmative referendum for consolidation and installation of the new elected officers), the governing bodies develop a framework for implementation of advisory planning districts in the consolidated municipality. (17)*

The Consolidation Commission determined that the consolidated municipality needed to alleviate the concerns and address reservations about consolidation expressed by some residents that they “might find that their voice in, or control and influence over, the decision-making process is diminished in a consolidated municipality.”(17)

The Task Force discussed options for advisory districts and how they would work. We considered various ideas for geographically defined advisory districts, both with and without a leadership structure, and we considered empowering existing neighborhood groups with formal status. However, the majority felt there were fatal flaws and major stumbling blocks to those proposals. Currently any member of the community may appear before the Planning or Zoning Board to offer opinions on the issues or applications before it. The creation of a district has the potential to strengthen the neighborhood voice when there is consensus within that district but when there is division, it provides no clear advantages and could exacerbate conflict within a neighborhood.

Neighbors who share common interests in favor of or in opposition to development proposals have successfully formed groups to advocate their views before various municipal entities, including the Mayor and Council, Planning Board, Zoning Board, and other related committees. It is our sense that Advisory Planning Districts do not present significant advantages over voluntary neighborhood groups. We grappled with how Advisory Planning District boundaries would be drawn, how the districts would be organized and how leaders would be elected. Further, they present the possibility of creating a burdensome bureaucracy that would require ongoing maintenance, oversight and staffing.

When we examined the reasoning behind the commission’s recommendations, i.e. what problem we were trying to solve, we agreed that many of the residents’ concerns about losing their voices in a larger town were related to the planning and land use development process and could possibly be addressed by other means. To that end, we came up with a list of Task Force objectives.

Advisory Planning Districts Task Force Objectives

Objective #1. Ensure that Princeton residents have a voice in-the planning, zoning, development, and preservation processes impacting their neighborhoods now that Princeton is a larger community.

Objective #2. Improve communication and education in Princeton neighborhoods regarding the planning, zoning, development, and preservation processes. The procedures for consolidating the former Borough and Township zoning codes provide an opportunity for communication by the Planning Board and governing body to involve residents and to explain how the planning and zoning process works and how the merger of the zoning codes might affect individual neighborhoods.

Objective #3. Facilitate and encourage communication between neighborhoods and institutions and developers prior to and during the planning, zoning, development, and preservation processes.

Objective #4. Encourage more proactive planning, zoning, development, and preservation processes that improve communication with the public, and engage the community earlier in the process.

Objective #5. Ensure that the Master Plan and the zoning code balance institutional growth and developer-initiated changes with neighborhood goals of long-term integrity and stability.

The Task Force therefore recommends that the Mayor and Council adopt a Neighborhood Planning Program for the municipality, with the following suggested components, in order to improve transparency, education and communication regarding the land use planning process as well as to ensure that residents have a voice in the planning and development of their neighborhood.

- Require land use application materials to be submitted in an electronic format as well as the hard copies now provided
- Develop a notification system and mechanism to distribute material digitally to interested residents more widely than the minimum required by law. Develop a mechanism to inform the community about land use projects that are in the pipeline.
- Enhance information distribution on applications and proposed ordinance reviews and amendments using emails and the municipal web page.
- Develop and maintain a directory of neighborhood groups and contact information to be posted on the municipal website for the purposes of sharing information and helping neighborhoods organize themselves.
- Outline the process for applications, zoning ordinances/amendments and master plan amendments, as well as other information about the land use process, such as what constitutes major and minor site plans and the roles of the Council, Planning Board, staff and others in a document to be posted on the municipal website and possibly to be included in a newsletter.
- Develop a procedure to tie planning information to a map of the community.
- Utilize the Planning Board's Zoning Amendment Review Committee meetings concerning new land use ordinances as a framework for inviting neighborhood participation. Reach out to neighborhood groups and hold meetings during evening hours and perhaps on weekends.
- Periodically hold neighborhood meetings to impart information and to solicit input regarding municipal activities related to individual neighborhoods. The core content of the meetings should include discussing how the master plan and zoning impacts each neighborhood. Meetings may also deal with other issues including traffic, storm water, police and solid waste collection.
- All municipal appointed Task Forces, Boards, Commissions and subcommittees that make planning decisions should keep summary minutes of each meeting that include names of those present, topics discussed, any actions taken and the votes on those actions. The minutes should be posted on the municipal web page.
- All Planning Board and Zoning Board meetings should be televised and the videos should be posted on the municipal website.

This is a working document. We plan to hold a public meeting on September 17th at 7pm in the Community Room to solicit input and ideas for the Neighborhood Planning Program.

The Advisory District Task Force recognizes that many of these recommendations involve staff time and some require additional expenditures that would need to be considered by the Mayor and Council.

Respectfully Submitted

Jenny Crumiller, Bill Harla, Wanda Gunning, Valerie Haynes, Ryan Lilienthal and Patrick Simon

Daniel A. Harris, 28 Dodds Lane, Princeton, NJ

Comments on Task Force on Advisory Planning Districts recommendations to Princeton Council, 7/14/14

I commend the Task Force on Advisory Planning Districts for their time and genuine thoughtfulness in generating a superior set of recommendations.

I am delighted to see that the use of electronic media to communicate with Princeton's citizens heads the list. This move alone will facilitate communication about zoning and development among citizens and allow us to think realistically about the ever-changing scene.

The last paragraph refers, rightly, to additional staff time and money that will be required of the Planning Office, among others, to implement the recommendations. I would like to comment briefly on this observation made by the Task Force. With all due respect to Lee Solow, Ilene Cutroneo, and Kerry Phillips, I have usually found the Planning Office to be tremendously overworked, often rushed, and often unable to get to citizen requests until "later." I make this observation as a person who has been involved in three citizen movements since 2007: the campaign to save Princeton Ridge, the movement to preserve the northwest corner of Bunn Drive from environmentally unsustainable development by the Westerly Road Church (now Stone Hill Church), and the effort by Princeton Citizens for Sustainable Neighborhoods to achieve a satisfactory design for the site of the old Princeton Hospital. I've had a lot of contact with the Planning Office, most of it very positive, but sometimes hampered by the unavailability of staff to provide documents and/or plans. **I would urge Princeton Council to consider the employment of additional staff.**

Because the matter affects communication between the Planning Office and Princeton citizens, it is worth noting here that the Planning Office itself is sometimes hobbled by developers who do not submit their plans in a timely manner (and thus cause chaos among Planning Office staff), or do not correctly paginate their site plan pages ("plats," I believe they are called), and in thus failing to provide accurate paperwork according to Municipal Land Use Law again cause consternation among Planning Office staff. I frankly do not know if any New Jersey municipal planning office has any leverage to insist that all developers submit their materials in proper format and in a timely manner—or whether the Municipal Land Use Law "clock" can be turned back or reset in cases of difficulties introduced by developers. But the issue is well worth exploring, and I truly hope that appropriate people will appoint other appropriate people to look into this matter.

Since this is potentially a legal issue, I would expect, Ms. Cecil, that you would wish to have professional input and that your expertise would be valued. I note that you serve as counsel to a number of municipalities, and I cannot believe that Princeton is the only one that is occasionally subject to the inappropriate submissions of paperwork by developers.

Remarks by Alexi Assmus, Maple Street, July 14, 2014

Mayor and Council:

I would like to address neighborhood representation in the municipality as I know that you will be conducting a workshop this evening on Neighborhood Advisory Groups. I believe it is important to have permanent organizations to represent neighborhood interests and that long-term organizations, such as the Jackson-Witherspoon association, may be able to interact in a constructive way with the municipality to ensure that neighborhood concerns such as new development or redevelopment, traffic, parks, and lighting are heard and acted upon.

I have spoken with the President and also the former Secretary of Charlottesville's 20-year-old Martha Jefferson Neighborhood Association which works actively with this college-town municipality (<http://www.mjna.org/about-mjna.html>). I'll give some examples, taken from in minutes from one of their monthly Board Meeting (Nov 11, 2013):

- "Bruce reported on a discussion among City Councilors and his follow up with City Manager Maurice Jones about MJNA concerns regarding traffic arising from the new developments. **Bruce** will follow up with Maurice Jones on a traffic study of the impact on key area streets of the developments."
- "**Harry** will find a responsible party to talk with about changing the streetlights to downcasting LEDs."
- "**Bruce** will contact the UVa School of Architecture to see if there is any interest in conducting a design charrette for the area south of E. High St. across from the former MJ Hospital."
- "We viewed the map Chris Gensic from the City Parks Department sent showing candidate pocket park locations and discussed the possibility of a park across High St near the Wells Fargo Bank."

The neighborhood associations in Charlottesville are self-empowering with their own by-laws which include neighborhood boundaries within which anyone over 18 can be a member, and recognized by the IRS as non-profits. **They are grassroots ---not established top-down by the municipality.** Officers are elected yearly and there are minimal dues. Their strength in Charlottesville has come from their ability to represent the neighborhoods long-term, with officers that meet with municipal official on a monthly basis, and block captains that cover the neighborhood block by block. They are not political organizations.

The municipality has responded to these neighborhood-grown organizations by running a Leadership Institute to train Neighborhood Association officers . One can see from the Charlottesville municipal website what an important role these Associations play with multiple pages devoted to the 17 different Neighborhood Associations in the 40,000 person Charlottesville municipality: (<http://www.charlottesville.org/Index.aspx?page=2035>)

The municipality has set up a program the municipality to interact with the Associations and to foster interactions amongthem. From the Charlottesville municipality website "Neighborhood Connection is a citizen-focused alliance network that helps provide Charlottesville residents with the resources they need to promote, preserve and ensure the character of their communities. It is intended to increase communication among and between neighborhoods and City government.