

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Commission (PC) – Julia Betz

Since the last Mayor & Town Council meeting, the Planning Commission (PC) met on September 5.

- The Freedom Community Comprehensive Plan went to the Carroll County Commissioners on July 28, and there is a 90-day review period. The County informed the PC that there will be a Board of Carroll County Commissioners (BCC) open forum for the public to discuss the Freedom Plan on September 21 at 7 p.m. at the South Carroll Senior Center. On October 19, there will be a public hearing for the Freedom Plan at Liberty or Century High School at 7 p.m., and the BCC will be making a final decision on the Freedom Plan at its October 23 meeting.
- Warfield Items
 - o Pattern Book – The PC received Version 5.0 of the Pattern Book to review and corrections were discussed. This should be the last round of corrections that are necessary, so a vote to approve the Pattern Book is anticipated at the next PC meeting.
 - o Elevations/Grading Plan – The PC was provided with the minutes from the last Sykesville Historic District Commission (HDC) meeting on August 28, 2017 as well as Richard Wagner's (of David H. Gleason Associates = Town consultant) memo dated August 22, 2017 to review all of the information discussed/provided regarding elevations and the grading plan. After being shown and discussing the drawings/sketches provided by Morris & Ritchie Associates (MRA), the PC concurs with the vote taken by the HDC at its August 28, 2017 meeting to approve Scheme B for the stepped system for Parcels E/F based on the memo dated August 22, 2017 from Richard Wagner, with the understanding that the applicant will maintain consistent elevations from the second floor level to the roof peak on a minimum of the two center bays of each stick (of townhomes), with grade changes accomplished at the rear garage level.
 - o Springfield Hospital Center (SHC) and Department of General Services (DGS) Response to Traffic Analysis – SHC with the DGS provided written comments dated August 31, 2017 regarding the traffic study information they were given on July 17, 2017 (they had 45 days to respond). Further discussion/meetings with representatives from SHC, DGS, MRA, and Town staff will be necessary to resolve the concerns about increased traffic and road maintenance.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 2, at 7 p.m. at the Town House.

Merchants Meeting – Al Grasley

- Carroll Community Bank representatives came to introduce themselves and handout information on their services. They offer both personal and business services. If you have questions, please contact Michelle DiNiro, mdiniro@carrollcobank.com or Sue Jaeger, sjaeger@carrollcobank.com.
- Baldwin's 20th Anniversary - Baldwins is celebrating their 20th anniversary this month. Congrats! Ridia is working on a calendar project that will include photography of town landmarks, etc. The calendar will be sold and some proceeds donated back to the Town (possibly for a new flag pole). If you are interested in sponsoring or being involved, please contact Ridia at The Vine on Main.
- Harvest Fest at the Farmer's Market will be held on Sunday, Oct 8 from 9am-2pm. The festival will take place on Main Street and include ALL Farmers Market vendors, food trucks, entertainment, and more. There will be music in the gazebo and in the Distillery parking lot. If you are interested in providing a children's or adult activity in your store or outside your store, please let me know. I have limited funds (as Promotion Committee chair) but may be able to help defray costs of any type of free activity that would run the duration of the festival for children or adults. (i.e. - a small craft or game)
- Increased juvenile activity on Main St - many merchants learned from each other that they are being harassed by a group of young adults. Debbie Scheller spoke to the police about it and you have probably gotten the updates via email from Debbie. Keep the police informed if this activity continues now that school has started.
- Congratulations to Firehouse Creamery! They held a "soft" opening this past week. And, DC Dills is in the process of opening. Welcome to our new merchants. Please forward this email to those owners and ask them to send me a return email so I can add them to this email list.
- Block Parties are over for the season. October's Block Party was cancelled so that we can close the streets for Harvest Fest and Trick or Treat on Main in Oct. HOWEVER, remind your customers that the Finally Friday Block Parties are continuing through Oct at the south end of town.

Next meeting: Sept. 29 at 9am at EW BECKS PUB

Historic District Commission and Gate House Museum – Stacy Link

Everything is going well and the museum continues to get decent traffic, but since the Smithsonian Exhibit ended, it has dropped off. Soon the curators Jack & Andrea White, are going to come up with a plan for driving more traffic to the museum.

They have designed the final three wall pieces for the 100 years ago exhibit, and once he gets a deposit, the contractor who does the work will get started. We should have them on the wall within two weeks.

We're also about to purchase a TV and speaker for the one remaining available spot on the wall. Mark Onheiser will help to install it. The curator can run PowerPoint displays on various subjects including our displays. We'll begin developing displays shortly. When the museum is

open these displays will run continuously and will include sound. We should have this ready within two weeks also, but developing the content will be ongoing and start out simple.

The GH Museum hopes to put out a new newsletter this fall and are planning an event for Veterans Day that will probably be related to our WWI display, but we haven't developed the details yet. Once the TV and the final displays are up, we'll turn our attention the newsletter, social media, etc., and creating events to build up our visitorship and community presence.

We also have an intern, a recent college grad with a history degree, who happens to be Jack & Andrea's daughter, who will be working on the huge archiving project. We will have an entry and a photo of every item in our collection stored in a database for easy searching. Including documents and photos there are probably over 4000 items.

On a side note, the school and library systems of Carroll County have selected Jack's book, In Carrie's Footprints, for their first ever One Carroll One Book. They will be using the book in all kinds of ways this year to promote friendship and respect between all the different kinds of people who live here. They're involving the colleges, government, businesses, all kinds of organizations, whatever they can come up with. It should be pretty cool. Lots of smart people working on it.

The next HDC meeting is on September 26 at 7 P.M.

Parks and Recreation (SPARC) – Anna Carter

The new director of public works wanted to know if SPARC would be interested in another volunteer painting project

Dan will follow-up with Anna regarding the sign replacement and the tetherball setup.

Movies

- The committee discussed adding a slide before the movie to recruit new members and volunteers
- The snack shack volunteers can put some of Park/H.E.A.L. brochures out during movies.
- Movie attendance has been very low. We will discuss ways to improve turnout at an upcoming meeting with more members

Status of the Snack Shack mural – in the process of scheduling a meeting with Liberty High School

New SPARC activities

The members in attendance discussed possible new events. All agreed that we have to push to get new members and volunteers.

Possible events included:

- A run with Tri-Sport Junction that used the trail and parks
- A relay race between parks
- Teaming up with Merritt for an event (e.g., activity day)
- Softball at Burkett
- 4th of July celebration

Warfield Development Corporation and Town Updates – Ian Shaw

The WDC has not met since our last meeting. Efforts continue with the State and the County to come to terms on a final payoff scenario, as they decide that what they had agreed to prior was not obtainable from the State and the County was unable to honor the agreement that we had in place in June 2017.

We are working vigilantly to expedite a response from the State and County one that we can negotiate and get to you for approval as soon as possible.

We have a joint meeting with County, Town and TWC to discuss work plans and timelines on 9/13/17

Town Items:

- The Interim manager has started as you are all aware and David is getting up to speed gradually.
- We have met with the HOA and the Developer at Raincliffe and are working on trail alternative plans that the Planning commission wanted.
- 7610 Main Street had some issues in the final build out that are being addressed by the planning commission and staff. They were approved to open and hopefully, they will go smooth. Connectivity to Main Street and some plan variations from the approved plan are the items being addressed. With the tear down this likely should have required a site plan. Unfortunately, it started as a remodel and became new construction without a site plan. That created some confusion for all. We are committed to working with them as well as the State to get the front sidewalk safety issues addressed as soon as possible.
- Discussions have continued with the draft of the Contract for 714 Sandosky Road Property and we anticipate having this for your review prior to the 9/25/17 meeting.
- Additionally, The Main Street MOU for the Creation of the Non Profit is being discussed and next steps will be determined. I will advise once a plan is in place.

Many items are ongoing and I will keep you updated to the best of my ability

Main Street Association – Leo Keenan

- Received the last payment of the nonprofit assistance grant for an amount of \$8,600 and prepared the last payment report for it.
- Julie also applied to the Carroll County Art Council for money for Art related programs.

- Julie is developing a program in conjunction with Merritt that will offer free swim classes and other sports activities for free for the underserved kids of this community every Sunday of the year.
- There will be soon an official inauguration of the bike rack. The promo material already bears the Town logo to show good faith and elected official will receive an invitation.

Events:

Carroll Business Academy: Wednesday Sept 13, 8 to 10 am at the Auditorium at Fairhaven.

The topic is Women Entrepreneurs

Farmers' Market every Sunday, 9 am to 1 pm

Harvest Festival: Sunday October 8, 9 am to 2 pm