

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of March 18, 2008

Members Present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry McEwen, Co-Chair	<input type="checkbox"/> Fran O'Donnell, Business Assoc
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Woodring, Co-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pam Learnard, TT&P
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joyce Lenhardt, LUPZC	<input type="checkbox"/> Parking Foundation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patrick McGranaghan, LUPZC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joanne Dhody, Aesthetics
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Washburn, Historical Society	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ned Mitinger, VP Physical

Others Attending

Debbie Schaaf, Planning Commission

John Haak, member LUPZC

Kristen Pazulski, Chestnut Hill *Local*

Melissa Nash, recorder

Larry McEwen, co-chair, opened the meeting at 7:30pm. The agenda item 240 E. Evergreen is postponed, as the owners have not received their refusal. Minutes were not available and will be presented at the next meeting.

Sidewalk Cafes

•Presentation and discussion: John Haak presented Debbie Schaaf who is a member of the city's Planning Commission. She is present at the meeting to provide information about sidewalk cafes, sidewalk encroachments and the management of these by the City. D Schaaf explained that new outdoor cafes require both an ordinance from the City Council and a license. She read from an example of a cafe attempting to legalize its existence. The ordinance describes the specific location, number of tables and chairs, the number to be seated, clear space for pedestrians (The example used provided 15' on Broad Street and 8' on Old York Road.). All details are carefully laid out. The ordinance goes through the Streets Department's Right of Way Unit with an application. The District Councilperson presents it to the Council. The Sidewalk Cafe Bill allows a cafe to take up half of the sidewalk unless the sidewalk is less than 13' wide. If less than 13' wide a minimum of 5' must be left clear. D Schaaf noted that recently over 200 cafes were counted in Center City while there are only 82 licensed cafes in the entire city. It was noted that the committee's interest in cafes was piqued, as Paul Roller wants an ordinance and license for a sidewalk cafe at Flying Fish. It was noted that there are quantifiable requirements for cafes and qualitative effects for them. A ten-day posting for the council hearing is required. L&I makes surveys of cafes twice a year or by complaints. It was asked if P Roller's request would come through the committee s. It is being discussed as Donna Reed Miller has asked for a letter from the Community Association. Joanne Dhody asked if local restaurants should be notified of the cafe rules. Issues including liability of restaurants for injuries and the blocking of sidewalks. D Schaaf also noted there is an RFP out for a two-year study of pedestrians and bicycle riders in the city.

•Continuing Discussion: Sidewalk sales are banned in Chestnut Hill. More clear space on sidewalks is needed 6' is minimum. J Dhody stated that the Community association office receives 5-6 complaints per day about sidewalks and signs. The freestanding signs being placed on sidewalks will be illegal if a council bill is passed. It was also noted that there is anew head of the Right of Way Unit. J Dhody stated that Fran O'Donnell is going to survey the signs. It was generally noted the sidewalk cafes add life to the street, as do some sidewalk sales. It was asked

who would talk to business owners about these activities. It was also suggested that the illegal signs could at least be better looking.

Bump out for Germantown Avenue/Bethlehem Pike Intersection.

- There are funds from the BID for creating a bump out at this intersection to make the pedestrian crossing shorter. A change in the pedestrian/automobile interface is needed. TT&P will discuss this at their meeting on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:30. The solution creates a tighter turn at the corner making turning more difficult for emergency vehicles. It may also be discussed by LUPZC at its meeting on the 1st Thursday of the month at 8pm.

Adjournment

- Before adjournment it was briefly noted that there is a \$17 million construction project at the bottom of the hill that will create more green space at the intersection. The DVRCP will meet Wed. discussing planned improvements and transportation.

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.