

Minutes for 9/10/2020 CRCA Meeting

Via Zoom 7:30pm

Welcome by Celeste Hardester, president, Central Roxborough Civic Association

Guest Speaker PA Representative Pam DeLissio

2020 Census ends on 9/30/2020.

- Important to respond, can do via paper, phone, or online.

November 3rd 2020 is Election Day

- Mail in ballot can be obtained at www.votespa.com
- Mailing in ballots is encouraged, although polling centers will be open.
- There will be designated drop-off boxes for mail in ballots.
- You can vote as early as 9/14 but counties don't have ballots yet.

Variance Appeal Presentation

490 Conarroe St - Joseph Console, Esq, Nick Cessna, and Matt Melady (MMNC. LLC)

- ZBA Date Continued, TBD
- Looking to legalize long-standing residential use of commercially-zoned structure.
- Many attendees voiced support. No objections were registered.

6168 Ridge Ave - RDC, Linda Dottor and Dina Bleckman

- ZBA hearing on 9/22/2020
- Pocket Park; asking for a height variance to exceed 4' limit to install a 6' fence along sidewalk, with un-gated entrance with identifying arch naming Roxborough
- Concerns expressed about fence feeling like a barrier, both due to height and spacing of spindles; questions as to why fence is needed at all; will this area be designated for use of brewery, not the public?
- Of the people attending, many expressed these concerns; some liked it

Preliminary presentation

348 Green Lane - Henry Bailey and Derek Spencer

- This is not an official RCO meeting, as no neighbors officially notified
- Preliminary presentation for consideration of community support to subdivide lot in order to build two attached houses on this historically designated lot
- Plans for houses displayed; these plans had been presented to CRCA zoning committee previously; committee and developer had been discussing support of new construction in exchange for necessary renovations, restoration, and landscaping of existing property, to be supported by a community benefits agreement
- Developer stated that budget for above improvements would be based on the financial outcome of the new construction.

- Meeting attendees asked many questions including specific questions about what renovations were needed on the existing house, how much they would cost and how the new houses would be priced. The developer was unable to answer any of these questions. The overall response was unenthusiastic about the plans presented, and didn't see value to community in breaking up lot.

Community Announcements

Two on Tuesday - Group of people who take care of foliage in public spaces. Cutting back foliage, planting trees and flowers, etc. and then they go out for pizza and beer after everything is said and done. It's a good way to get to know people in your community.

- Email johnmcarpenter@msn.com if you would like to get involved.
- John Carpenter is also involved with the Roxborough/Manayunk Conservancy, a group that is focused on preserving the open space in Roxborough and Manayunk.

Meeting conclusion

- Throughout the meeting, 80 people were in attendance, including presenters. People were able to raise their hands to speak, or use the Chat function. Personal chat function was turned off.
- Meeting was administered by Celeste Hardester, with Board Director Amy Wilson handling most zoom tasks throughout the meeting, including taking attendance.