

**LAYTONSVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 31, 2014**

Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the Laytonsville Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Eric Wenger at 7:33 p.m. Commission Members Peter Stadler, Brendan Deyo and Paul Simonetti were present.

Attendance: Guests Bob Leggieri and Dave Crowe were present.

Minutes:

The minutes from the meeting October 28, 2013 were presented. Chair Wenger noted that there were a couple misspellings. 13C is referenced twice, it was concluded that the bold lettering are the changes. It was noted that a light was not warranted. 9 asking about storm water clarified that this is correctly stated as being the Town of Laytonsville's responsibility. Following those clarifications Commission Member Stadler moved to accept the minutes with corrections. The minutes were approved.

Old Business:

Chair Wenger has been in contact with consultant Mr. Doug Lohmeyer. At this time he is still waiting from comments from the state on the Comprehensive Plan. It is expected that these comments will be received next week.

Laytonsville Preserve update: The new utility poles are in place. Testing continues on the pumping station. No connection will be made until the testing and power problems have been resolved. Grading work continues. Mr. Leggieri provided further information on the progress.

New Business:

Discussion began regarding the pedestrian crosswalk on Maple Knoll Dr. Mr. Leggieri and Mr. Crowe were present for Laytonsville Preserve (MHG). There is currently a sidewalk on the north side of Maple Knoll Dr. That portion will end at a crosswalk, where the sidewalk will then continue on the south side into the residential development. Maple Knoll Dr. goes from 80' width to 60' residential width. It would not be divided. Moving the sidewalk to the south side midway down Maple Knoll Dr. would preserve the established Maple trees. Mr. Deyo is concerned that the location of the shift in the road and the crosswalk being in generally the same location that driver's will not recognize that the crosswalk exists and that there is an opportunity to attain excessive speed. Chair Wenger and Mr. Leggieri reviewed the plans and confirmed that the side walk would be signed, textured and painted in accordance with the County law.

Mr. Crowe and Mr. Leggieri emphasized that this crosswalk is nearly identical to numerous crosswalks within subdivisions in other parts of Montgomery County (those that are at a midway point) and meets all the safety standards. Speed will be marked appropriately and it is up to the driver to obey the speed limit. Member Deyo expressed that he wants to be pro-active and have a rational solution and explanation for the crosswalks design. Member Stadler stated that the County will review all plans for appropriateness. Chair Wenger repeated that the crosswalk would be clearly marked, using State approved signs, texture and paint to order to make the crosswalk as visible as possible. Discussion then continued regarding the main entrance point, Maple Knoll Dr. and Laytonsville Rd. (RT 108). The intersection at Maple Knoll Dr. and RT 108 is more dangerous given that the speed is higher, and visibility is limited. The State conducted studies of this intersection and deemed that the trip count did not warrant a traffic light or a crosswalk to the west side of RT108 at that point. Member Simonetti suggested that the Town engage in a discussion with the State regarding installing a crosswalk at the intersection of Maple Knoll Dr. and RT 108.

Member Simonetti made a motion to approve the crosswalk on Maple Knoll Dr. as presented. Mr. Deyo second. The Motion was approved. There was one abstention.

Adjournment:

The next meeting will be held on March 10, 2014. There being no further business, Member Stadler made the motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Member Simonetti. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sheree Wenger

Chair, Historic District Commission

Substitute notetaker