

Chester Heights Planning Commission

August 24, 2017

Meeting Minutes

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm in the Borough Office with the following Commission Members in attendance:

Mr. John Lesky
Mr. Mark Carroll
Ms. Ellen Fox

- I. Meeting called to order by John Lesky.

- II. Agenda:
 - A. Review of the Borough of Chester Heights –Revision to Property Maintenance-Nuisance and Elimination of Bamboo Ordinances. Presented by Frank W. Daly Solicitor, Chester Heights Borough.
 - 1) Carroll-under 123-1-C-1 & 2-Lawns-wording of the actual measurement to be defined in the ordinance somewhat confusing. Suggestion more quantifying measurements for the front yard and side yard.
 - 2) Lesky-Buffer Zone-as reference to above mentioned, 124-2-D-1 also somewhat confusing on the actual measurements to be included.
 - 3) Carroll-124-2-B-2 -Some questions on burden of responsibility of proof of ownership of bamboo. Question-What about a new home owner where bamboo already exist?

- III. Next planning meeting September 28, 2017, 7:00 PM. Agenda will be updated as request come available.

- IV. Lesky-Motion to adjourn 8:00 PM, August 24, 2017. Second-Fox

Message body

A) Noted this letter is Thayer as a resident.

Hi All,

I am sorry I was not at the last meeting as I was out in Oregon on vacation. I am not sure how much has progressed with the proposed Ordinance.

Oddly most folks don't care about the Bamboo portion of the Ordinance. The greatest amount of concern is over the property maintenance piece of it. For those of us with over ten acres preventing "trees, shrubbery, hedging and other landscaping from becoming overgrown, unsightly or in a state of neglect" is completely ludicrous. That pretty much describes most of my land. It has always been neglected.

The section on dangerous and diseased trees is also unacceptable. Wawa Rd. as a public roadway would mean I would have to care for all of the trees in the forest within 50 feet of the road. The power lines have always been PECO's problem, and now you want the Borough to take over that responsibility?

Defining lawn areas around my house, where I have to mow grass as opposed to field area? So much for the rural atmosphere in the Borough.

The section on "refuse" is also unworkable. Does this mean that Wawa now needs to police the road frontage on Rt.1 to pick up trash? "Brush weeds and obnoxious growth" pretty much defines most of Wawa Rd.

I am sorry, but some of us have spent a lot of money and effort to preserve open space in the Borough, and no seems to give any deference to large land owners in this Ordinance. This may work for a half-acre lot with a townhouse and an HOA, but it is unacceptable to those of us with larger lots. If this is what you would like our Borough to look like, then it is time to call Toll Brothers. So much for "open space".

Thayer

ATTACHMENT B & C-Minutes 9/24/17

B) Drew Comments:

My comments as follows;

- as per Thayer, possibly unfair to larger landowners . Especially with a large amount of street frontage.
- enforcement and at what cost to Borough .

C) By biggest issue is enforcement.

>> Chris