

Community and Government Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 12, 2021 6:00 PM

Present: Councilpersons Ben Bell, Tim Brennan, Noni West, Joe Frederick, and Larry Browne as well as Borough Manager John Davis, Borough Council President Jack O'Brien, and Mayor Ron Strouse.

The **Minutes** of the May 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

Social Media Policy: Ben and the Committee reviewed the goals of this policy as a basis to monitor social media entries, as well as the draft ordinance. Borough Counsel Joanna Waldron has reviewed the draft and suggested several minor adjustments, as well as removing some of the details and examples. Noni and Mayor Strouse preferred the shorter, more concise version, with more discretion left to Borough staff to remove inappropriate or threatening commentary, although with a required neutrality in doing so. John will ask Joanna to adjust some of the wording and include a brief, introductory memorandum.

Food Drive Planning: There are no new details to report, although Ben is continuing to work on how Borough Council can assist local organizations with planning a food drive for a Friday in October.

Mural Arts Program: Mayor Strouse noted Jen Jarret has not been able to schedule a planning meeting yet, although he suggested to her she create a demonstration project to create community interest. The Michener Art Museum is being included in this project as well, although through their recent reorganization, they may not have a great deal of participation at this point. The hope and plan is to be ready for work on this by Spring, once the new park is completed.

Remote Meeting Participation: The Committee discussed the likely desire of the public to participate in public meetings remotely. The need to keep the meetings organized and allow for equal and fair participation is important. Jack noted there have been several meetings via Zoom with large amounts of public attendees. Receiving public comments from those attending the meeting is easy while those online will need to be handled by a moderator. Once the move to the new building is complete, there will be training on the new audio/visual equipment in order to allow for adequate participation as well as visual participation with photos and plans. Ben brought up the consideration of a voting quorum, which is not a legal requirement in Committee votes, although any public meeting needs to be advertised and include the ability to attend in person. Further discussions will continue, including input from the Borough Solicitor on the legal perspective.

Mayor's Legislative Update: Mayor Strouse noted there are several items waiting for the Senate to return from their break. He will have more to report at the next meeting.

New/Old Business: None.

Meeting Adjourned 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Kramer