

**Community and Government Affairs Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, May 10, 2021 6:00 PM**

**Present:** Councilpersons Ben Bell, Tim Brennan, Noni West, Joe Frederick, and Larry Browne as well as Borough Manager John Davis, and Mayor Ron Strouse.

The **Minutes** of the March 2021 meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

**Virtual Meeting Requirements:** Ben reviewed the current statute changes during the State of Emergency and the Zoom platform in use, and his recent discussion with Representative Shelby Labs regarding House Bill 1318, which Ben provided to the Committee members to review, and addresses how a quorum would work with the case of meetings being held remotely. The current emergency will be lifted in the near future, and there are excellent IT capabilities in the new Borough building, which could allow for continued Zoom meetings. Noni and Tim agreed Zoom meetings have been helpful as far as improved attendance. Noni suggested a hybrid of in-person and Zoom meetings. John noted most County municipalities are going back to in-person meetings or are planning to do so soon. Noni would prefer to talk with the Pennsylvania Municipal League for their recommendations before drafting a resolution in support of House Bill 1318; Mayor Strouse, Tim and John agree that is the best course of action. Mayor Strouse suggests not necessarily supporting the bill itself, but supporting the substance of it regarding a bit of flexibility. He will consult with Amy from PML on their thoughts.

**Social Media Policy:** Ben explained this policy is regarding social media posts. As a public entity, the Borough is permitted to moderate third party content, but a public statement needs to be made available showing what posts will be rejected or removed and what those parameters are, other than the obvious statements regarding obscenity, threats, commercial speech and personally identifiable information.

There are legal issues involved in making decisions to remove or hide third party statements. John is the moderator of these pages, and he needs to be empowered with the information to make lawful decisions. There aren't other municipalities in the area with this sort of policy to look to for suggestions. Ben provided an example statement as a starting point. Larry will provide more details from his resources, and John will discuss this with the Borough Solicitor and the discussion will continue at next month's meeting.

**Mural Arts Program:** Jen Jarret has a working group for this public arts program. A kickoff meeting is on May 19.

**New/Old Business:** Mayor Strouse has provided a resolution to recognize June 19<sup>th</sup> as Freedom Day. The Committee voted unanimously to forward the resolution to Borough Council for approval. (Browne-West). Resident Doreen Stratton attended the meeting and is very pleased with this important resolution.

Discover Doylestown volunteers hung flower baskets throughout the Borough recently. Joe Frederick expressed thanks to Public Works for delivering the baskets.

**Meeting Adjourned** 6:55pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Kramer