

Kennett Pike Association, Inc.
Partial Minutes of Annual Meeting
Monday, October 26
Hagley Museum Soda House

Richard Beck, KPA Acting President for three years, opened the meeting and introduced new KPA President John Danzeisen. Mr. Danzeisen introduced each of the three speakers.

Mark Chura, Executive Director of Delaware Greenways

Mark has been key in trying to persuade the Stoltz Development Association (Stoltz) to scale back its plans. First Mark acknowledged Patty as the heart, soul, and emotion of Citizens for Responsible Growth in New Castle County. She has built the public support to fight the size of the Stoltz developments and preserve this historic area of the Brandywine Valley. Dick Beck is the brains behind CRG and has come up with the legal strategy to request that the County more accurately interpret its own Unified Development Code.

Mark said it has been 7 months since the public meeting held by Stoltz at 20 Montchanin Road (formerly MBNA, Columbia Gas). At this meeting the Stoltz organization presented modified plans for Greenville Center (GC) and Barley Mill Plaza (BMP); these plans have never been filed with the Department of Land Use. Where are they? CRG has worked hard to provide guidance to Stoltz on what the community is willing to accept. Stoltz said he would reduce the height of the 12 story condominium at Greenville Center to 6 stories; CRG wants 4 stories and the plan still shows 12. DeIDOT and the County are not looking at the whole traffic picture, how the traffic inside the GC and BMP developments affects the traffic on the surrounding roads.

Gretchen Mercer, President of Centreville Civic Association: Traffic Calming in Centreville

On April 2 the Centreville Streetscape project was determined to be “shovel ready” and a bid of \$1.2 million from CNS Construction Company was accepted. The project should start very soon, following DeIDOT repairs to a culvert on Route 100. Sidewalks, curbing, and permanent bulbouts (where the pots are) will be installed in the .7 mile area between Snuff Mill and Center Meeting Roads. The sidewalks in front of the merchant area will be brick; beyond that they will be brushed agate (concrete) with brick edging. The parking areas and bike paths will be re-configured to make the traffic lanes appear to narrow (they will remain the same size).

No decision has been made about traffic circles (roundabouts) vs. traffic lights at Snuff Mill and Center Meeting Roads. Both solutions have proponents. The circles would probably take up too much space, since they must be designed for use by 18 wheeler trucks.

Gretchen admitted that the only effective measure to control speeding is the State Police.

Councilman Bob Weiner

For many years Councilman Weiner patrolled his district (2nd District) every weekend looking for broken windows, graffiti, and signs of criminal behavior. Two years ago he partnered with DelDOT and asked several companies to donate products to eradicate graffiti – paint, solvents, scrubbers, etc. He said if graffiti is removed quickly it is 1) easier to remove, and 2) discourages the perpetrators from striking again. Men in halfway houses and detention centers have been offered the job of helping remove graffiti with great success. Greenville and Centreville are the areas of greatest success; in other areas graffiti is not under control yet. The Councilman deputized all present to fight graffiti, to carry a spray bottle with paint solvent and a plastic scrubber, and remove graffiti whenever we see it. But we should only reach as high as we can with both feet on the ground.

Bob introduced State Senator Mike Katz and thanked him for being a strong supporter of CRG. He mentioned his own role in asking Bank of America in Greenville to use architecture that fits in with the community.

Senator Katz spoke for a moment, saying that this community is his community as well, and he is happy to be a resource to us all. He can be reached by email or at his State office.

KPA Business

President John Danzeisen apologized for the late delivery of proxies and newsletters, and said that voting results for Trustees will be posted on the website in about 10 days. At the monthly Trustee's meeting The proxies were accepted as a definitive vote for the election of Christine Homer and Richard Beck to new four-year terms as Trustees.