

St. Michaels Planning Commission
St. Michaels Town Office
300 Mill Street

Remote Workshop
April 20, 2021 - 2:00 P.M.

Present: Planning Commission Chairman Jefferson Knapp and Commission Members Helen Herman, Carol Parlett, Chris Thomas and Cynthia Allen, Zoning Officer Kymberly Kudla, Meeting Coordinator Kimberly Weller, and members of the public.

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Knapp called the remote workshop to order at 2:02 p.m. in St. Michaels, Maryland.

II. Approval of Minutes

- April 6, 2021

Chairman Knapp corrected a typographical error but had no other changes to the minutes. Member Helen Herman made the motion to approve the minutes. Member Chris Thomas seconded it and the motion passed on a voice vote of 4-0 in favor.

III. Parking Issues

- Presentation to the Commissioners

Chairman Knapp said he thought there was little directional feedback from the Commissioners on the parking presentation and that perhaps the members should develop a bullet list of requests to be put directly to the Commissioners. The members agreed. Chairman Knapp said the first item was the signage for Water Street. Member Thomas said the hydrants on Water Street also need to be marked “no parking” for safety reasons, and added the proposed elimination of parking on Talbot Street and the creation of loading zones.

The members also discussed with Kim Weller the map that would be placed in parking areas and its relationship to the “town map” produced by the Business Association. It was agreed that the map was a “parks and recreation” map and would include parks, the trail, parking lots, restrooms, but not businesses, restaurants or accommodations, and was therefore a different map with a different purpose.

- April 6th minutes amendment

Member Carol Parlett interrupted the discussion to amend the April 6th minutes to clarify her request that a “do not enter” sign be added underneath the “one way” sign at the Post Office parking lot. The other members agreed with her comments. Member Thomas made the motion to accept the minutes as amended, which was seconded by Member Parlett and which then passed on a voice vote of 5-0.

- Parking Issues (continued)

The members continued their discussion of parking and agreed that enforcement was key to parking problems. Chairman Knapp added that the signage empowers the police to enforce the regulations. Doug Rollow of Water Street said residents on Water Street supported no parking zones and signage. Mr. Rollow added that the parking plan for Water Street was now clarified so that most residents could understand and support it, i.e., parking cleared from the corners for the emergency vehicles and no parking on the street on the even side. The members agreed that enforcement and angled parking on Mulberry Street should be part of the bullet point list.

- **Farmer's Market Sign**

Zoning Officer Kudla reported on the results of her research into a freestanding sign for the Farmer's Market and had determined that the Code allows a smaller 6 ft. freestanding sign for an "activity" such as the Farmer's Market. The sign would need approval from the Historic District and a sign permit, but that no amendment of the Code was necessary. She also noted that there was a potential Maryland Heritage (MHAA) grant available for wayfaring signage for which the Town could apply next year.

Chairman Knapp then reviewed the bullet points for the Commissioners:

- Water Street "no parking on pavement" signage , tow zone signage, and hydrant signs
- Removal of parking on Talbot Street from Canton Street south and adding loading zones
- Post Office additional signage
- Enforcement
- Mulberry Street parking
- Public safety

- **Town Parking Fund discussion**

Doug Rollow of Water Street presented a history of the Town parking fund and his suggestions for improvement of public parking. The members thanked Mr. Rollow for his presentation and agreed they would like to take more time to read and digest his proposal.

Chairman Knapp said that the next meeting would include another discussion of parking and Water Street issues and noted the next meeting would be May 4th at 1:00 p.m.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Minutes approved by 4-0 vote in favor on 4th day of May, 2021.



Jefferson Knapp, Chairman