

PITA COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 9, 2004
6:30 PM

Members present: Mayor Stephen Repasch, Mr. Randy Soriano, Mr. Fred Capuano, Mrs. Helen Halleman, Mrs. Pat Capuano, Ms. Debbie Fair, Ms. Kathy Roth.

Mayor Repasch introduced the newest member of the PITA Committee, Kathy Roth, 1310 Jeter Avenue. Mayor Repasch and Mr. Soriano provided Ms. Roth with a brief background of how and why the PITA Committee was formed and their efforts in the development of the Master Site Plan for the Stanley Avenue Recreation Area. Mr. Soriano noted that the Borough has received numerous state Grants matched with local contributions (mainly by St. Luke's Hospital) to develop Phases 1, 2, 3(a), 5. Mr. Soriano noted that the Committee has been involved in various fundraising events since 2000.

Mr. Soriano noted that the latest Phase to be developed is Phase 5. Mr. Soriano noted that Len Policelli, URDC was unable to attend the meeting and provided instead a progress report on the project. The report is attached to these minutes. Mr. Soriano briefly pointed out that the Contractor is about 90% finished. Mr. Soriano noted that the Borough also anticipated installing additional conduits that will be needed to serve the development of Phase 8, if and when the Borough decides to install lighting for the baseball field. Mr. Soriano noted that there will be an extra cost associated with this work. Mr. Soriano noted that Mr. Policelli was in the process of obtaining a cost estimate.

The Committee briefly discussed land acquisition for future use for the development of Phase 8. Mr. Capuano provided a brief accounting of the potential cost associated with land acquisition. Mr. Capuano noted that the Borough will pursue the acquisition with the landowners, Gatta, et. al. Mr. Soriano provided a brief review of the various grants available through the State DCNR C2P2 Program and the County Growing Greener. Mr. Soriano noted that the County Growing Greener requires the adoption of an Open Land and Space Plan as a prerequisite to apply for funding. Mr. Soriano noted that the County has set aside close to \$226,000 over a ten year period.

The Committee next reviewed a Proposal from URDC for the scope of services for the development of Phase 9. Mayor Repasch explained that the Borough has received \$58,000 through a Grant. Mayor Repasch discussed the URDC Proposal noting the frustration that the Committee has had in dealing with cost overruns. Mayor Repasch noted that URDC should be more "attuned" with the preparation of cost estimates. Mayor Repasch mentioned that the URDC Proposal had erroneously described the scope of services on page 1, by referring to Phase 5 scope of services. Mr. Soriano believed that this may have been because URDC used a template and forgot to delete the prior proposal language submitted for Phase 5. A brief discussion ensued on the long-standing relationship between the Borough and URDC. Both Mr. Soriano and Mayor Repasch noted that the firm, over the years, has done good work for the Borough. Mayor Repasch, Mr. Soriano believed that other firms would charge more since they would have to start from scratch. Mayor Repasch noted that URDC had submitted a Proposal of not to exceed \$8,700. The PITA Committee recommended that Borough Council accept the Proposal for services from URDC for the design and bid specs for Phase 9.

The Committee briefly discussed upcoming fundraising efforts such as wine tasting and sale of calendars through a nonprofit club such as the Hose Company. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.