Lambertville Community Advisory Team Meeting Highlights August 24, 2020

Update since last meeting:

- The public design charette/design vetting meeting (a session in which a group a people collaborates on the design of the building) for mixed-income housing on the current police station site will be held from 9am to noon on Sept. 26, 2020.
- The CAT is considering creating an unpaid intern position to help with social media, videography, graphic design, etc.
- Via email correspondence, City attorney, Bill Opel, advised against doing a Phase 1 environmental study of the police station site because the City could be exposed to potential risks and associated costs if a study is conducted, noting environmental studies should be done by the developer.
- Vince Mazzai, of the DEP, is willing to answer CAT questions on building near Category 1 streams and floodplains. From this, the CAT will generate either a Q&A or FAQ for the public.

Talk of the town—what individual CAT members are hearing:

Over the last few weeks, CAT members heard from the public on a variety of topics, including questions and viewpoints about the survey structure and the public nature of the CAT, potential environmental issues at the police station site, and whether the city council and the CAT are fully addressing public concerns. The co-chairs noted that a Q&A with the mayor is being set up to address some of these concerns.

Update from Survey:

The co-chairs reviewed findings from the 313 submitted surveys. These findings will be presented to the city council on Sept. 1, 2020 and posted to the CAT page on the city website.

Update from office hours:

Mary Barna offered a summary of the CAT office hours, which will be reviewed with the city council and posted to the CAT page in the Lambertville city website.

Advertising the charette/design vetting process:

The team discussed how to advertise the charette/design vetting meeting to maximize public involvement.

City Council Presentation on Sept 1:

The co-chairs reviewed the CAT presentation to the city council meeting on Sept. 1, 2020. A draft will be sent to the CAT for revisions/edits in advance of the presentation. After the city council meeting, the presentation will be posted to the CAT page on the city website.

Overview of next few meetings:

Emily Goldman, the city planner, will attend the September CAT meetings. All members of the CAT should attend the charette/design vetting meeting on Sept. 26th. At our Oct 1st meeting, the CAT will discuss final design recommendations of the police stations site.

Based on public feedback, the CAT once again discussed the possibility of making a recommendation to the city council for a Phase 1 environmental study of the police station site. Pending clarification from an environmental lawyer in the city attorney's firm, the CAT will take up the matter at its next meeting.

Submitted by Andrew Nowick