

Minutes of the meeting of the Chesterland Steering Committee

held at Mayfield United Methodist Church
at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 27, 2007

Committee Members:

Present: Bill Laditka
Tom Basista
Bruce Becker
Ron Cotman
Jack DeChellis
Geraldine Fisco
Jeff Huntsberger

Absent: Joe Mazzurco
Bob Somrak
Tim Todaro

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Bill Laditka

The meeting's agenda was read.

First agenda item:

The proposed comprehensive community planning schedule was reviewed. The schedule was approved with a note to finalize the exact date for the upcoming community presentation in October.

Second agenda item:

Tom Basista presented the D.B. Hartt Plan, noting the inflexibility of the zoning laws and regulations in regards to the commercial districts that may have contributed to the failure to create a cohesive town center in the past. He suggested the need for more definitive objectives and steps on how to accomplish them. The plan was only concerned with 'use' and did not investigate form or place issues.

Third agenda item:

The committee members individually presented their visions of what they would desire Chesterland to be. Some of the ideas that were offered include:

- Beautifying the town center and the surrounding areas
- "Walkability", "Human Scale", "Place" for the town center area
- Easy access to public transportation
- Mixed use of land – living, shopping, professional services in one convenient location
- Enhancement of the amenities provided for the town
- Senior center
- Chagrin Falls, Winter Park, FL were cited as desirable town examples

Fourth agenda item:

Initial review of the list of issues for the Ad Hoc Committees began. The first two issues which are Transportation and Utilities were discussed. The possibilities of different studies within each issue, as well as the organizations and people that could offer some help in these matters were explored.

Fifth agenda item:

The homework for the next meeting was given with the top priority being the establishment of the committee's mission statement. Each member will also review and be prepared to discuss The Charter of The New Urbanism at the next meeting.

Sixth agenda item:

For the last part of the meeting, the approximately 23 public attendees were invited to speak. Many ideas regarding issues for the Ad Hoc Committees were shared. However, the main interest of most attendees was to seek out the committee's opinion in regards to the matter of land acquisition, specifically the 11 acres next to the old Chester School. Many attendees believe the procurement of this land may tie in positively with the committee's long term plans. Majority of the committee's members voiced their support for the purchase of this land. Although this matter has been discussed in the previous two meeting sessions, the committee currently does not have a plan for the use of this property.

The meeting officially adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Administrative Assistant, S. Christine Gumal.