LOWER GWYNEDD TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION Minutes of May 18, 2022

Present: Rich Valiga, Vice-Chair Maureen Nunn Danielle Porreca Joel Mayor Steve Ware, Interim Zoning Officer Patty Furber, B&Z Administrator Ed Brown, Gilmore & Associates

Absent: Craig Melograno, Chairman, Stephen Paccione, Rusty Beardsley

Call to Order:

The meeting of the Lower Gwynedd Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes: March 16, 2022

A motion was made by Ms. Nunn and seconded by Mr. Mayor to approve the minutes of the Lower Gwynedd Township Planning Commission meeting of March 16, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

Subdivision/Land Development:

601 Knight Rd. - Wissahickon School District**#22-03WLD**Middle School Natatorium Repurposing Project

Present for the applicant was Mr. Gerry Moore, Director of Facilities, Wissahickon School District, Mr. Arif Fazil and Mr. Michael Sander from D'Huy Engineering, Mr. Michael Bell from Breslin Ridyard Fadero Architects.

Mr. Fazil began by giving a brief background of the project informing the board members that four years ago Wissahickon High School built a new natatorium which is used by both the high school and middle school students. The applicant would like to convert the old middle school natatorium into six much needed classrooms. Mr. Fazil informed the board that access to the site would be off of Houston Rd. where there will be a temporary staging area to support the renovation work on a concrete patio. The site will be cordoned off to ensure that no students can get into the staging area.

Mr. Fazil stated that they will provide grading and E&S control plans for the temporary construction. They intend to restore the staging area to the previous condition upon final completion of the project. Construction will be off hours when the bus loop area is not

needed for buses going in/out. Mr. Mayor wanted to know how this construction will impact the houses behind the middle school? Mr. Fazil stated that since there is such a large number of trees that buffer that area, those neighboring houses wouldn't be able to see or hear any of the construction, so that shouldn't be an issue.

Mr. Valiga stated that there would be a lot of truck traffic coming and going and felt that the number of trips to should be limited on such a small road. He wanted to know about how many trucks would be coming and going per day? Mr. Fazil stated that they are estimating around 10 trucks per day for roughly 2 weeks for the volume of stone needed to backfill the pool. Mr. Valiga stated that he was concerned about the stone pile getting too big with 10 trucks per day. Mr. Fazil stated that they want the stone filled in right away, not sitting there, so it wouldn't be an issue. Mr. Valiga suggested maybe limiting the number of trucks to only 5 per day. Mr. Fazil agreed that they will make a notation to limit it to 5 truckloads of stone per day.

Mr. Brown wanted to know the exact time frame that this project will be out to bid? Mr. Fazil stated that they would like the project to begin in January 2023. Mr. Valiga wanted to know about the sequencing start-up and the loading and unloading of the students. Mr. Fazil stated that they came up with a schedule with the school district. Mr. Moore stated that the last thing they want is construction traffic when classes start, which is around 7:30 a.m., they will be on the same construction time frame that the high school natatorium was on, which would be during the day while classes are in session.

Mr. Valiga wanted to know about any after school activities that may be affected by the construction. Mr. Moore stated the reason why they want to get this project completed during the winter months is that any after school activities would be limited to inside the building, there wouldn't be any outdoor activities during the construction phase.

Mr. Valiga asked if there would be any trees removed? Mr. Fazil stated that there would be 3 trees removed which they will plant 3 new trees in their place. Mr. Valiga stated that they should work with Gilmore regarding the caliber inches of the trees and they should be in-kind and of native species. Mr. Fazil agreed.

Mr. Valiga went over the review letter from Gilmore & Associates, dated May 12, 2022. Mr. Fazil stated they would comply with all except for B.(4). Mr. Fazil stated the school district would prefer not to enter into a development agreement with financial security. Mr. Brown stated that this up to the Township Solicitor to decide and should be brought up during the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Mr. Valiga went over the Fire Marshal's letter dated April 26, 2022. Mr. Fazil stated they would comply, but was unsure of Mr. Comly's comment # (7) regarding "providing a schedule for installation of sprinklers in the balance of the building". Mr. Moore stated that as they progress with interior renovations moving forward, those areas will be sprinklered, but they were unsure why this comment was included in his review. Mr. Brown stated that he would touch base with Mr. Comly for more clarification.

Mr. Valiga wanted to know more information regarding Al Comly's comment on # (4) regarding the "mezzanine" area. Mr. Fazil stated that the information for the

"mezzanine" area would be shown in the building plans during the permitting phase which will show more detail regarding that space.

Mr. Mayor made a motion to recommend the waiver of land development approval to the Board of Supervisors subject to the following conditions by Mr. Valiga:

1) The stone storage shall be limited to 5 truckloads per day;

2) The applicant will comply with Gilmore's review letter dated May 12, 2022 and will work with Gilmore regarding the tree replacement.

3) The applicant will work with the Fire Marshal and Gilmore to clarify items #4 & #7 in the Fire Marshal's review letter dated April 26, 2022.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Porreca and passed with an 4-0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M. Respectfully submitted, Patty Furber, Secretary