

**Policy Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 24, 2023
7:00 pm**

MINUTES

Committee: Chairman, Mr. Kirkner, Ms. Burckley, and Mr. Ewald
Staff: Mr. Krack and Mr. Boelker

I. Call to Order at 7:01 pm.

II. Public Participation

Dr. David Saneck, resident. He expressed his concerns with Item VI. B. He's not sure why we need to have this item on the Agenda. He stated it's a state level issue and he believes the Borough should not create an Ordinance for reproductive health services.

III. Presentations - None

IV. Committee Member Updates/Discussions - None

V. New Business

A. Motion to recommend Borough Council schedule and advertise an Ordinance amending Ordinance - Chapter 6 Conduct - Part 4 Noise.

Mr. Krack explained the background on the amendment. It would remove outdated language, removes the sections regarding decibel levels as the Borough does not have the necessary equipment to test noise levels and it would redefine unacceptable noises in a way that makes the Ordinance enforceable.

Mr. Boelker agreed with Mr. Krack's statements and added that the current scales are sometimes misinterpreted and callers always want the lowest decibel level to apply to the situation. The new language will place the discretion on the person responding to the call if the noise is a violation.

Mr. Kirkner stated the current Ordinance does not state anything about proximity to the source and its totally open ended.

Mr. Krack indicated he would have the Solicitor review the ordinance to make all the necessary fixes before advertising.

Ms. Burckley asked if the Police Department had been made aware of the change.

Mr. Krack explained the Police were involved recently with a resident who is complaining of excessive noise in her neighborhood.

Mr. Kirkner pointed out some inconsistencies with the Ordinance as it relates to the times certain noises are acceptable.

Mr. Krack stated he would review those section again and make the necessary changes.

Mr. Ewald asked if the changes would affect the Quarter Midget Race track.

Mr. Krack indicated they have a Conditional Use that excludes them from the noise Ordinance. It is only for their location and should they close another track could not use their exception.

Ms. Burckley made a Motion to recommend to Schedule and Advertise. Seconded by Mr. Ewald.

Motion Approved 3-0.

B. Discussion regarding Plastic Bags.

Mr. Krack explained the background on the banning of plastic bags and provided the committee with some examples of what the Ordinance could contain.

Mr. Boelker stated it is only single use bags and would not include the bags used to purchase produce.

Mr. Ewald stated he did reach out to Acme and Giant to get their input on the potential ban of the plastic bags.

Mr. Boelker stated they would get a grace period to exhaust their stock of plastic bags.

Mr. Kirkner stated he would be interested in getting feedback from all the business in town on the potential ban.

Mr. Ewald stated he believes there are more resources for producing paper bags but he is unsure if it's costlier.

Mr. Krack explained this will not be ready for the February meeting.

VI. Current Focus Business

A. Discussion regarding HARB/Sign review and approval.

Mr. Krack stated our Zoning update will begin in April and the outcome of the

rewrite may resolve any issues there are with the current HARB/ Sign review process.

B. Enforcement of bans on reproductive health services.

Mr. Krack indicated it had been left as a discussion point as we awaited the election results from November. While it looks favorable for now, we may have to address this issue again in four years.

Mr. Ewald stated there is no harm in leaving it on the agenda while we continue to monitor what the Federal house does as it relates to this topic.

VII Adjournment at 7:41 pm. by Mr. Ewald.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7:00 pm.