

Minutes of the Greater Kingston Civic Association
April 18, 2023 General Membership Meeting
St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 7-9pm

Cherry Hill Township officials & staff made themselves available to Greater Kingston residents to deliver 1) traffic & 2) construction updates & to discuss 3) the status of the redevelopment of the pool grounds into a neighborhood park.

Traffic

- CHPD Chief Kempf gave a report about efforts to address cut-through traffic & speeding within the neighborhood. He reported & made available speeding study stats. Chief Kempf reported 265 stops & 135 tickets issued during a period of time, which attendees applauded.
- During Q&A, a resident highlighted the parking of cars on both sides of Deland at the CHYAA facility during the ball season & requested perhaps limiting parking to only one side during the season due to safety concerns for kids & all.
- The Rt. 70/Kingston Rd. intersection/entrance again was identified by many residents as a source of great frustration & safety concerns. It was identified as a serious issue to be resolved, hopefully in the near future.
- The Tampa Rd./Edgemoor Rd. intersection is being studied for possible upgrade to a four-way stop.

Rt. 70

- CH Twp Mayor Susan Shin Angulo, Twp Council President Dave Fleisher, Twp Council Vice President Brian Bauerle & Chief Kempf assured attendees that current paving of the medians along Rt. 70 is in preparation for work on the current traffic lanes & is not for widening the highway. The medians will be crossover lanes during construction, which is expected to last until 2025. Twp officials expect the median to be planted & hope the community will have input on the greening project.

Pool Grounds Park

- In addition to the officials named above, CH Twp Business Administrator Erin Knoedler, Director of Recreation Megan Brown & Director of Community Development Cosmas Diamantis were present to listen to resident feedback.
- President Fleischer gave a summary of the transformation to-date, with Phase 1: Acquisition & Phase 2: Remediation, both completed. Township officials emphasized that Phase 3: Redevelopment, will be guided by neighborhood resident input. Residents previously offered input in March 2022, at last year's GKCA General Membership Meeting.
- Doug Johnson, consulting engineer, talked about thoughts from a March 2023 meeting with CH Township officials requested by the GKCA Executive Committee. The meeting was attended by some neighbors with properties nearest the pool grounds, to exchange ideas about the park & preemptively mitigating possible impacts to surrounding property owners.
- The Twp envisions a tribute to the KESC Swim Club years, & a mix of passive & active use at the park, with features to be guided by community input. He offered an overview

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of possible additional changes to the structure & parking lot to make the park area more visible, pleasing & accessible to residents & park-goers.

- Residents were invited to ask questions/share ideas with the assembly. Some ideas shared were: a pump track (for bikers); a dog park; inclusive features; trash receptacles; good buffer & park maintenance; a kiddies' roadway; no music events; basketball/no basketball; splash pad/no splash pad; etc. Twp officials said no Twp events would be held at this park as is done at Croft & Barclay Farms. Unfortunately, a splash pad will not be one of the features at this park, for several reasons. Pickleball courts, highly controversial in other neighborhoods, will not be a feature either.
- One resident conducted a survey on Facebook & presented some of the results. Based on the responses, he drafted & displayed two possible plans. A plan drafted by another resident was not displayed at the meeting, but numerous ideas & drafted plans are available for viewing on one or more Kingston area FB pages.
- Residents were encouraged to share any additional ideas for the park to Erin Knoedler (eknoedler@chnj.gov) or to GKCA (GKCA@comcast.net).
- **Next step:** CH Twp will continue with zoning, engineering & cost analyses to draft plans for review by residents in the few next months.

Other Topics Raised

- New utility work is being done on recently paved roads, to the dismay of folks as residents & taxpayers. Twp officials assured that the roads would be properly repaved.
- The Brandywood area is experiencing serious erosion to some property owners' yards from creek surges. One resident pressed Twp officials to engage the Army Corps of Engineers to revisit the area, which has long been an area of concern.
- Safety concerns were raised due to many streetlights being out in the neighborhood.
- Residents highlighted the poor conditions of roads.

GKCA Family Memberships are \$20/year.

The form is at the top of our homepage at www.greaterkingstoncivicassociation.org.

Simply return your payment to Rich Hoffmann, as per the form.

Please renew or join to keep our neighborhood association strong!

Respectfully submitted,
GKCA Executive Committee
GKCA@comcast.net