

Minutes of the Greater Kingston Civic Association April 17, 2024 General Membership Meeting St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 7-9pm

After a brief welcome & an association business segment, the GKCA executive committee gave the floor to Cherry Hill Mayor Dave Fleisher to address the attendees. Mayor Fleisher introduced officials & staff present. He informed the audience about his administration's efforts to increase communication on many fronts:

- An improved website & new app (myCherryHill)
- The Mayor's weekly message every Thursday & sharing of Cherry Hill notices through civic associations.

Mayor Fleisher highlighted successful & ongoing community development projects & priorities, such as:

- The resumption of July 4th fireworks in Cherry Hill beginning this year
- The stopped development of a Wawa gas station at Barclay Farm Shopping Center
- The purchase of Holly Ravine Farm for open space & of the Kingston Estates Swim Club for a future park
- The Rt. 70 resurfacing, PSE&G upgrades & cooperative road maintenance in neighborhoods
- \$10M in scheduled roads upgrades, including 20 roads in Greater Kingston
- A strong new tree ordinance
- Efforts to minimize & mitigate flooding & drainage problems for those most affected.

A brief Q&A on these topics followed, including:

- NJAW-patched roads that were previously newly paved will be redone curb-to-curb
- Storm sewer grates are smaller for bicycle safety (a State requirement) & the Department of Public Works maintains a hot list of clogged grates that require maintenance
- Sewer back-ups experienced by some residents
- Very bumpy roads (pot holes) in places will be repaired/asphalted after the current concrete work is completed (towards the end of summer)
- Insufficient lighting in some areas of the neighborhood
- Traffic mess at Rt. 70 exit (a dedicated right turn lane may be added)
- Traffic speeds, increased enforcement & CHPD stats
- Traffic hazards resulting from cars parked on both sides of the street, especially along bus routes, & by PSE&G heavy machinery parked on streets, not the swim club lot
- Flood victims wrote their names on a list provided by GKCA at the sign-in table. Mayor Fleisher said his administration would meet with these residents separately to address their issues.

At 7:51pm, Mayor Fleisher pivoted to the park presentation. The park is projected to be a \$3.5M-\$4M investment. A committee of interested residents met with the Mayor's office twice to offer neighborhood input on the project. This presentation reflected results of those two meetings:

- The Gene Hart hockey court will be relocated onto KESC grounds
- A ½ sized basketball court will be moved forward, towards Deland Rd.
- All buildings will be demolished & park facilities will be geared toward all ages
- Several graphic concept plans were projected for the audience to see
- The public made comments about various features but generally approved of the concept plans.

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!