

**PENNSBURY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 12, 2019**

Chairman Dennis Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present: Dennis Smith, Lynn Luft, Jim Ware, Jeff Streitel, Corinne Murphy and Kathleen Howley. The minutes of January 22, 2019 were approved as submitted.

Richard Currie ZHB request – Styer Peonies – Mr. Currie was present to explain his application to the Zoning Hearing Board for a special exception. He proposes to open the fields of peony bushes to the public for a period of 10 days beginning in May. Mr. Smith reviewed the process of review for this type of hearing and the members will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors who can submit their comments to the Zoning Hearing Board. The hearing is scheduled for February 25, 2019 at 7 p.m. in the township building.

The following was noted in the discussion between Mr. Currie and members:

1. There are 120 acres of peonies – 100 varieties – and the production of this group is getting to be more and more expensive for labor, shipping while taking into consideration climate changes.
2. The production of cut flowers is harder and therefore the focus is changing to selling roots.
3. Mr. Currie hopes to expand the business by inviting the public to view the plants just before bloom and also have for sale the roots. This will be geared toward backyard gardeners.
4. He has not done the “tour” before but hopes this would be an annual event.
5. Members talked with Mr. Currie about things he should consider in planning this event: parking, traffic control, signage, as well as health, safety and welfare consideration in handling crowds.
6. Mr. Currie has been in the peony bush growing business for many years and owns fields in So. Chester County, Maryland and New York.

Mrs. Luft moved to recommend to the supervisors that the township remain neutral. There was no second and motion failed. Corinne Murphy moved to recommend support of the application with the condition that outstanding issues like parking, traffic control and any other issue for conducting an event like this be clarified. Motion was seconded by Jeff Streitel. A discussion followed and vote taken. 4 members were in support and one abstaining. Motion carried.

Anderson Subdivision Plan – Mrs. Luft summarized the site visit to the property on February 9th which was attend by Dennis Smith, Lynn Luft and Matt Houtman. The proposed driveway as well as landscaping and proposed house sites noted on the plan was discussed. Mr. Diem is revising the plans and this will be on the next PC agenda, 2/26. Mr. Smith and Mrs. Luft will be out of town but the other 3 members will be present. Ms. Howley stated an extension of subdivision approval should be considered at the supervisor’s meeting on 2/20/19.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Howley, Recording Secretary