

BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN PARK
Technology Advisory Committee

Minutes

December 2, 2021

7:00 PM

The meeting was held in person at the Borough Building and by Zoom.

Roll Call

Nate Dufresne
Matt Garland (Chair)
Cathy Poole (Vice Chair)
John Park
Luke Myslinski

Excused

Annie Graziani
Andy Nock

Old Business

Minutes of the November 4 meeting were reviewed and approved.

New Business

Public Safety Communication

Lauttamus communication to conduct a simple propagations study to determine feasibility of using existing towers for radio repeaters.

- Multiple phones calls and emails were sent to Bill Gras by Matt and Cathy since the November 4 meeting. As of this meeting, there has been no response to our request for information on the propagation study.
- Will continue to try to make contact.

NASD Propagation Study

Luke Myslinski was able to connect with Bill Kirk from NASD and got an update on the status of the existing tower at NASH.

- The guy-wires have been removed from the existing structure and therefore it is unstable and needs to be replaced.
- NASD has obtained a used monopole in 20 foot sections that they will be erecting to replace the existing tower.
- It is unclear at this time if there will be room for a radio antenna to support Franklin Park radio communication.
- There was discussion regarding the potential use of a light pole at Newman stadium.
- **Action Items**

- Franklin Park will continue to pursue the results of the NASD radio propagation study through Roger Sechler.
- The TAC in conjunction with borough staff will continue to follow-up with Luttamus for the propagation study.

Draft Ordinance Changes for Small Cell

The TAC received draft changes to the Franklin Park ordinances for small cells. As we are aware, PA Act 50 went into law in September 2021. FP Borough is a member of the North Hills Council of Governments (COG). The COG was approached by the Cohen Law Group who offered a group discount to rewrite Wireless Communication Facilities code for COG Members. FP Borough signed on to the group discount. The Cohen Law Group (CLG) has a practice that supports the public and private sector in cable, telecommunications and broadband. The documents we received were the work product of the engagement with CLG. Borough Council has not received these documents yet. The documents will go to Max Junker, the FP solicitor, for his review. Then they will go to council for review and comment. The TAC can provide comment to Rege Ebner. The group reviewed and discussed the proposed ordinance.

- The ordinance seems to directly incorporate the language of PA Act 50 related to small cells.
- The TAC discussed the current provisions of the code regarding tower based wireless communication facilities. Specifically the group discussed the restrictive nature of the requirement for tower based communication facilities to be located on a minimum of 50 acres in the R-1 and R-2 districts. This severely limits the locations that can accommodate a tower in the borough. The TAC would like to understand if other local municipalities have similar acreage requirements. Additional research of municipal code is needed.
- **Action Items**
 - Research on municipal code will be done before providing comment to the borough manager.
 - Matt Garland to reach out to Jim Penna, Regional Director External Affairs for AT&T, to get AT&T's perspective.

Good and Welfare

None

The next meeting is February 3, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the meeting room at the Franklin Park Borough Building. (January meeting to be cancelled.) A Zoom meeting will also be available.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Poole
Co-Chair

DRAFT