



and the zoning and plans announced so far. It officially was a “contact meeting” with the community on behalf of Foundation Partners, he said. Already sold to a developer a couple of years ago was the south parking lot of the funeral home; the Foundation Partners seek rezoning of the north parking lot for a similar sale, said Schoellhamer; a “contact meeting” is required by the city prior to submission of a Type III application. After the application is submitted there would be a public notice of hearing; and a public hearing would take place, with both written and oral testimony. When the land use decision is made by the city, there would remain the possibility of an appeal to the City Council. Schoellhamer concluded with a slide showing the city’s criteria for approval of the application. Specific rules apply to tree preservation; a parking study is needed prior to approving the repurposing of a parking lot.

Stapleton arose to comment that tonight constituted “an informal setting for the applicant and the neighbors to discuss the proposal”, and he went on to describe the project. However, he cautioned, contrary to original expectations, the Foundation Partners plans are not yet concrete, but he will return to meet with us again for the actual “contact meeting” within a couple of months, when these plans “come into focus”.

One thing still on the table, he said, is the elimination of the conditional use status of the north parking lot. He is gathering data now on both on-street parking demand and off-street parking demand at the funeral home’s normal services (which are mostly on weekends) plus their occasional special events, which could require valet parking arrangements. There are about 17 vehicles arriving currently for typical funeral services, he disclosed. “‘Foundation’ is still looking at all options, at this point,” he said.

The north parking lot at Wilhelm’s is a half acre; the north half is zoned R2.5 (maximum of 4 housing units) and the south half is zoned R2 (maximum of 5 housing units).

In answer to a question from the SMILE “Moreland Woods” Committee members present, Stapleton replied that Foundation Partners is still open to the neighborhood buying the property for a park; but it was also clear that the company is expecting to develop any needed replacement parking on a section of that land, and is interested in the possibility of establishing a graveyard on another section of “Moreland Woods”.

There followed considerable Q&A on various points between attendees and Stapleton. He concluded by saying he hopes to return in June or July to discuss a “concrete final plan”.

There being no other business on the agenda, or offered from the floor, Pat Hainley moved the meeting be adjourned, and Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, which then carried with unanimity at 9:03 p.m.