

MACON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

January 28th, 2004

A meeting of the Macon County Planning Board was held on January 28th, 2004 at the Macon County Courthouse. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

CALL TO ORDER:

Planning Board members present included Ronnie Beale, Lamar Sprinkle, Alan Marsh, Eric Pearson, Susan Ervin, Evelyn Southard, Jimmy Goodman, Mike Decker, Larry Stenger and Byron McClure. Members of the press as well as a few interested citizens were also in attendance.

PUBLIC SESSION:

During public session, Chairman Beale took the opportunity to address the issue of letters and correspondence from the general public to the Board. Beale read aloud a letter from a citizen concerned about nuisances in her neighborhood. After reading the letter, Byron McClure promised the board that he would collect and keep such letters for Board review in a file.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

As the next order of business, Eric Pearson made the motion to adopt the minutes from the January 14th meeting. Alan Marsh seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. As well, Jimmy Goodman made the motion to adopt the minutes from the December 9th meeting. Larry Stenger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Byron McClure informed the Board that he had completed a set of proposed by-laws. The original draft was currently being reviewed by the staff attorney and administration. McClure promised Board members that he would present those by-laws to each member upon receiving a corrected draft from those reviewing them. However, McClure reminded the Board that they did not need the By-Laws to carry out this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/PROJECTS:

Susan Ervin was asked to brief the Board on the work that her "Public Involvement" subcommittee had completed. Ervin informed the Board that the committee had recently met with Vickey Wade and had begun the process of formulating a multi-tiered effort to solicit public involvement on the issues. Although the plan is still being formulated, Ervin promised she would present the Board with a draft at a future meeting. Jimmy Goodman, a member of the subcommittee, expressed his desire to make the committee official in the eyes of the Board with a motion. He then made the following motion, "To form a subcommittee to study the best ways to get public involvement in the planning process to deal with high impact uses in Macon County, and report those findings back to the Board for discussion and possible adoption." A lengthy discussion ensued. Some questioned the mechanics of the public involvement process. After debate, Alan Marsh seconded the motion and it passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: At the last meeting, Chairman Beale had asked Byron McClure to condense the three favored mission statements. After reviewing the statements again, Eric Pearson made a suggestion to combine elements from two of three favorites. Jimmy Goodman agreed and made a motion to adopt the mission statement suggested. Alan Marsh seconded and it passed unanimously. Byron McClure promised to get a copy to each member. As the next order of business the Board discussed election/affirmation of officers. After discussion, Goodman moved that Ronnie remain in the seat of Chair by acclamation. Lamar Sprinkle suggested a second and the Board agreed. Discussion ensued around the vice-chairman seat. Mr. Bryson had been serving in that role before the Board was reassembled in January. Mr. Bryson, because of a scheduling conflict was unable to make the current meeting time. After discussion, the Board decided that members would discuss Mr. Bryson's interest in the vice-chairman office and take up the issue at a later time. The Board next decided to set a regularly scheduled meeting time. Chairman Beale suggested that the "third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm" might be a good time of month for everyone. Eric Pearson made a motion to adopt that date and time, and Jimmy Goodman seconded. The Board agreed unanimously. As the final bit of unfinished business, the Board spent a great deal of time identifying potential high impact uses. Board members and staff exchanged ideas about potential high impact uses. Although many uses were identified, a list was not finalized. After a lengthy discussion, the Board decided to revisit the issue at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

As the final order of business, Byron McClure briefed the Board on the issue of derelict mobile homes and the problem facing many communities concerning their disposal. McClure informed the Board that he had been approached by a concerned citizen who had actually studied the issue for a few years. After a short discussion, McClure gave the members a recent press article on the issue for personal reading.

With no further business, Chairman Beale adjourned the meeting.

Clerk/Secretary

Chairman Ronnie Beale