

MACON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2001 MEETING

Chairman Ronnie Beale commenced the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Members present included Vice-Chairman Neville Bryson, Richard Baldwin, Eric Pierson, and Susan Ervin. Staff members Byron McClure and Joe Stark were also on hand. A reporter for the Macon County News was also in attendance.

As the first order of business, Chairman Beale asked Macon County staff to hand out the latest version of the proposed Macon County Zoning Ordinance. Macon County Zoning Ordinance Version 2.0 was given to the members. A short discussion ensued. Finally, the Board decided to review the ordinance and discuss it at a December meeting after proper review time.

The second item of business involved the Planning Board's input on some technical changes involving the appellate processes for the Macon Sign Ordinance and the Telecommunications Tower Ordinance. The change proposed by County staff involved changing the appellate body in each ordinance from the Macon County Planning Board to the newly created Board of Adjustment. Richard Baldwin moved to incorporate the changes as described by Macon County staff and recommend those changes to the Commissioners. Eric Pierson seconded the motion. There was no discussion and Chairman Beale conducted the vote. The motion was passed unanimously.

As the final order of business, Chairman Beale prompted a discussion of the Macon County Sign Control Ordinance. At an earlier meeting, the Board was receptive to a suggestion by County staff to revisit the ordinance and propose any changes which might improve the mechanics of the ordinance and the effectiveness of current enforcement resources. Those changes could include altering established standards or clearly defining existing definitions. County staff also told the Board that the existing permitting process was very efficient, yet however could not curtail the proliferation of signs across the County by merchants and individuals who do not enter the permitting process. County staff indicated a need for suggestions on better enforcement. A lengthy discussion ensued. Chairman Beale suggested that the County staff outline any recommendations for change to the ordinance and submit them for consideration at the January meeting.

With no further business, Chairman Beale adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Chairman Ronnie Beale