

MACON COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

April 18th, 2003

A special joint meeting of the Macon County Planning Board and the Macon County Board of Commissioners was held on April 18th, 2003 at the Shoney's of Franklin. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am.

Planning Board members present included Susan Ervin, Ronnie Beale, Lamar Sprinkle, Richard Baldwin, and Eric Pierson. All Commission members were present. Planning staff members Joe Stark and Byron McClure were also in attendance. Candice Cunningham from *The Franklin Press*, Beth Seay from the *Macon County News*, and Becky Johnson from the *Smoky Mountain News* were on hand as well. A few concerned citizens had attended and were recognized as well.

After eating breakfast around 8:00 am, Chairman Beale commenced the meeting by recognizing Commission Chairman West as the Planning Liaison. Chairman West took the opportunity to remind everyone that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss concerns involving growth pressures in Macon County. More specifically, future initiatives dealing with land use planning. Chairman Beale expressed his desire for the Commission to give the Planning Board direction for future work. Both Beale and West wanted everyone at the table to have the opportunity to speak on their concerns. Planning Board members, Commission members, as well as a few concerned citizens, were given time to express their specific concerns.

A lengthy discussion ensued. Many concerns and ideas were shared between Board members as well as staff. Common concerns included water and sewer expansion/services, high impact development, and commercial corridor appearance issues. Board members also discussed the importance of educating the public on land use issues.

After discussion, it was decided that the Planning Board would concentrate future efforts around these and other emerging land use issues.

With no further business Chairman Beale adjourned the meeting.

Chairman Ronnie Beale