

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Marion Planning Commission held in the Municipal Building at 5:15 p. m. on September 10, 2012.

INVOCATION: Mr. Hicks rendered the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Wolfe called the meeting to order.

VISITORS: Charles Wassum.

PRESENT: Chairman Cameron Wolfe, Jim Barker, Alice Freeman, Ben Reedy, Dan Surface and Avery Cornett, Town Engineer Cecil Hicks, Town Attorney Mark Fenyk and Deputy Clerk Anita Catron.

ABSENT: Bob Ramsey.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: The meeting was called to order, and with 6 voting members present, the Commission has a quorum.

Chairman Wolfe welcomed Mr. Avery Cornett as a new member of Planning Commission.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. Surface and vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the last meeting, held July 9, 2012, were approved as written and distributed. There was no meeting in August 2012.

REPORT OF SECRETARY: Mr. Hicks stated that Planning Commission members need to review the Zoning Ordinance Matrix with regards to amending language.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES: No report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Hicks stated that Dr. Dave Haney with the Emory & Henry College of Physical Therapy Program gave an update to Council at the last meeting. Dr. Haney stated they have tentatively planned to house students in some areas of the Old Hospital Building. Thompson & Litton have been asked to study this to see if everything is in order to allow for housing of these students. Mr. Fenyk advised the Matrix needs to have "p" for "permitted" added to the line item "Public and Private Schools, Colleges and Universities" in Medical Arts. Council has set a Joint Public Hearing with Marion Planning Commission for Monday October 1, 2012 at 5:30 pm. This will need to be advertised this week to allow for adequate notice.

Discussion ensued with regards to the areas of the Old Hospital that are to be used for the housing, and all feel that the intent from existing definition would have included this.

Mrs. Freeman indicated she would like for the Matrix to reflect this is "Permitted Use" and not "Special Use".

Chairman Wolfe noted he would like to change the advertisement to read "will hold a Joint Public Hearing".

Upon motion of Mrs. Freeman the recommendation to Amend the Matrix to say Public and Private Schools, Colleges, Universities and Professional Schools and Housing associated with these programs be permitted under Medical Arts will be sent to Town Council. This motion was seconded by Mr. Barker and with a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Mr. Hicks and Mr. Barker will inform Council of this motion.

Mr. Fenyk stated no sign on the property was necessary as this was only a change to the Zoning Matrix.

Mr. Barker was excused.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: FINAL REVIEW OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN-Chairman Wolfe opened the floor for any discussion with regards to this plan. Mrs. Freeman had requested a map be added to the front cover of the Comprehensive Plan that will reflect where Marion is located in this area. Mr. Hicks will contact Mr. Armbrister about adding this to the front cover. Mr. Wolfe stated that all other requested changes appear to have been made. With no more discussion, and upon motion of Mr. Reedy, seconded by Mr. Surface and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the Planning Commission will send the Comprehensive Plan to Town Council for approval and to set a Joint Public Hearing Date.

Chairman Wolfe informed members that they will begin review of the Zoning Ordinance for possible changes at the next meeting.

Discussion ensued with regards to working with Mount Rogers PDC on this item and how best to proceed.

Mr. Reedy inquired to the status of having Sally Morgan from Smyth County attend a meeting to discuss ideas for working together in the future.

Mr. Surface inquired about the time frame for work on the two bridges in town.

Mrs. Freeman would like for Mr. Hicks to again check into the lighting at the new Parking Garage. The lights are not boxed and they are spilling onto neighboring properties.

Chairman Wolfe reminded everyone of the official opening of the Airport this Saturday. He also stated again the date for the Public Hearing with Town Council and reminded everyone they need to attend.

Upon motion of Mr. Reedy, seconded by Ms. Freeman and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES the meeting was adjourned.

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Chairman

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Secretary