

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2024

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The Town of Orange Planning Commission held a meeting at 6:00 p.m., in the Town of Orange Community Meeting Room. Planning Commission members present were: Chairman Benjamin Sherman, Vice-Chair Page Sullenberger, Commissioners Rita Carroll, and Donald Schafer. Staff members present were Director of Community Development John Cooley, AICP, CZA, Town Attorney Catherine Lea, and Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC. Councilmember Jeremiah Pent and Commissioner LJ Taylor were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sherman called the meeting to order. The Deputy Town Clerk called roll and noted that there was a quorum present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patrick McAloon of 155 West Main Street appeared before the Commission and suggested the Town look for grant opportunities through a third-party consultant to help with revisions to the Comprehensive Plan. A brief discussion was held.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2024

Motion was made by Vice-Chair Sullenberger, seconded by Commissioner Carroll, to approve the meeting minutes of January 29, 2024, as presented. On vote, Chairman Sherman – aye, Vice-Chair Sullenberger – aye, Commissioner Carroll – aye, Commissioner Schafer – aye, and Commissioner Taylor – absent. Motion carried.

UPDATE OF KEAN ROAD SUBDIVISION – SP2024-1

The Director of Community Development reported that the plans were distributed, and comments were received from Public Works, VDOT, Orange County and Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District. A discussion was held.

The Director of Community Development also gave an update on Phase II of Round Hill Meadows project.

DISCUSSION OF SOLAR RESIDENTIAL & SOLAR COMMERCIAL

The Director of Community Development stated that the Town's Zoning Ordinance didn't address solar at all, however the State Code did. The Director of Community Development stated further that the State Code permitted solar for residential and businesses that served that structure. After discussion, the Director of Community Development stated that staff would work with the Town Attorney to address solar farms in the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

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CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Director of Community Development provided the Commission with Comprehensive Plan workbooks. The Director of Community Development stated that staff was requesting that the Commission finish reviewing all 12 Themes of the Comprehensive Plan before public input.

Commissioner Carroll suggested that water and climate change be addressed in the Comprehensive Plan.

The Director of Community Development stated that he would reach out to PD-9 to get the demographic information for the Town.

Vice-Chair Sullenberger asked if the plan had to be a 20-year plan. The Director of Community Development stated that State Code required revisions every 5 years. A discussion was held.

DISCUSSION OF MAIN STREET ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT)

The Director of Community Development reported that he would be meeting with RDA and the landscape architect on Thursday to walk Main Street. The Director of Community Development stated that some businesses would like to bump out sidewalks and that some parking would be lost. The Director of Community Development stated further that public meetings would need to be held.

A discussion was held on outdoor seating for restaurants on Main Street.

DISCUSSION OF PARKLETS (DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT)

The Director of Community Development stated that he provided the Commission with handouts on parklets. The Director of Community Development stated further that the biggest concern was safety. A discussion was held.

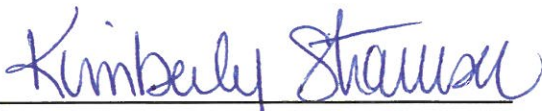
The Director of Community Development requested that the Commission review the information provided and be prepared to give feedback at the next meeting.

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NEXT MEETING

The next Planning Commission meeting will be on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 6 :00 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.



Kimberly Strawser, CZA, CMC
Deputy Town Clerk



Chairman Benjamin Sherman