

PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes

January 10, 2007

Present: Hal Curry, Aussie Geer, John Winchester, Elaine Fowler, Anne Kilpatrick

Absent: Robert Thompson, Pat Votava

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Anne Kilpatrick made a motion to approve the minutes of December 13, 2006 as presented. The motion was seconded by Aussie Geer. The discussion confirmed amendments, deletions and edits had been previously made through electronic correspondence to the satisfaction of the Commission. The motion carried by unanimous vote 5-0.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Anne Kilpatrick made a motion to approve the agenda for January 10, 2007. The motion was seconded by Aussie Geer. There was no discussion. The motion carried by unanimous vote 5-0.

III. Election of Officers

Anne Kilpatrick nominated Hal Curry for Chairman. The motion was seconded by Aussie Geer. There was no discussion. The vote carried by unanimous vote 5-0. Aussie Geer nominated Pat Votava for Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Anne Kilpatrick. The motion carried by unanimous vote 5-0.

IV. Correspondence

No correspondence was received for the Planning Commission.

V. General Public Comment

There was no general public comment for the Planning Commission.

VI. Unfinished Business

- **Adopt Rules of Procedure** – Aussie Geer made a motion to accept the Draft Rules of Procedure. The motion was seconded by Anne Kilpatrick. Discussion followed on the following points:
 - (1) Article 2, Section 2 – There was general discussion about adding items to the agenda and requirements of FOIA. The section should be written as “Items may be added to the agenda at the meeting and approved by the Commission”.
 - (2) Article 2, Section 5, Voting – The Rules of Procedure should state” Motions shall be passed or denied by a majority vote of the Planning Commission”.
 - (3) Abstention – The Commission changed the language to “If a member has a conflict of interest they must abstain from deliberating or voting on the question and must advise the chair the reason for abstention”.
 - (4) Article 3, Section 4, Procedure – Amend the language to read: “Unless otherwise determined appropriate by the Chair, in matters brought before the Commission for a public hearing, items which were initiated by an applicant, his agent, or attorney shall be held first, members of the public next and staff next”.
 - (5) Article 3, Section 4 Procedure/Cross Examination – The Commission chose to strike “No person speaking at a public hearing shall be subject to cross examination”, and insert “All questions from the public must be addressed to the Chair”.
 - (6) Article IV, Section 3 Attendance – The section should read “The minutes shall show the members in attendance at each meeting”.

Elaine Fowler moved to adopt the amendments set forth in the discussion of the original motion. The amendment was seconded by Aussie Geer. The motion to adopt the amendments carried by unanimous vote of the Planning Commission.

The Chair called for a vote of the original motion to adopt the Rules of Procedure which carried by unanimous vote of 5-0.

VII. New Business

- **Comprehensive Plan** – General discussion regarding the value of the Comprehensive Plan ensued. Commission members agreed to study the document further. The Chair recognized the continued problem of parking in the Commercial District and the necessity for a parking plan and offered to speak to Council regarding an outside consultant to resolve the problem. In addition the Commission contemplated a detailed review of the Commercial District section of the zoning ordinance. The Chair will invite Scott Parker to discuss master plan issues at the February 2007 meeting.
- **Lot or Lot of Record** – There was general discussion of the definition of lot or lot of record. Kent Prause presented a definition: A land area designated as a separate and distinct parcel, tract or property on the most recent legally recorder plat, or in the absence of a legally recorded plat, that as described on the most recent legally recorded deed, both or either as filed in the Office of Register of Mense Conveyance of Charleston County; provided, however, that for the purpose of determining whether such lot is a separate, distinct building lot, or lot suitable for independent conveyance, any and all restrictions and limitations referenced in the chain of title shall be considered.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business for the Planning Commission, Elaine Fowler made a motion to adjourn with a second Aussie Geer. The motion carried by unanimous vote of 5-0.