

**Barnesville Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 2, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Barnesville Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman Jeremy Krause at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Merlin Strom, Steve Mortenson, Marlene Schell, Gary Fraedrich, Jeremy Krause, Pat Berndt, and Karen Lauer, Acting Zoning Administrator.

Members absent: Mike Osten, and Jacob Gehrig.

Others present: Marvin Stetz, Jason Bolgrean, Tom Hamm, Kristal Rick, Margaret Follingstad, and Pam Aakre of the Record-Review.

AGENDA

1-2-07-01 Motion by Strom and seconded by Mortenson to approve the agenda with the addition of Group Work Camp under Other Zoning Concerns. Unanimously carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD MEMBERS TO TALK WITH CANDIDATES FOR BOARD VACANCY

The candidates for the vacant Planning Commission position introduced themselves, briefly reviewed their background, and explained the reason for their interest in serving on the Planning Commission. These candidates were Tom Hamm, Jason Bolgrean, Marvin Stetz, Kristal Rick and Margaret Follingstad. The Planning Commission thanked the candidates and indicated a decision would be made later in the meeting which candidate they recommended to the City Council for appointment.

MINUTES

1-2-07-02 Motion by Schell and seconded by Strom to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2006 meeting. Unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS: DISCUSSION ON CHANGES TO P-ZONE

Karen Lauer reviewed the information from the City Attorney on proposed language for the P-Zone. The Planning Commission discussed the items and it was the consensus of the Planning Commission members to continue this item at the next regular meeting.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE

- **Parking of Recreational Vehicles:** Karen Lauer reported that there is some confusion regarding the intent of the language in Subd. 6. Off-Street Residential Parking Restrictions. Jeremy Krause noted that the language was debated when it was written and he is not sure that the intent of the discussions was carried forward in the language in this subdivision. The area of concern is mainly regarding the parking of recreational vehicles, fish houses and utility tractors. Of specific concern are the number of vehicles or houses and the placement of these items. Karen Lauer will try to find the minutes or other records that would provide some information on the history of previous discussions. This issue will be on the agenda at the next regular meeting.
- **Non-Conforming Structure Section:** Karen Lauer explained this issue is related to houses that are located in commercially zoned areas. A challenge has been received on the language that indicates a non-conforming use cannot be rebuilt if it is damaged to an extent of more than fifty percent. Karen noted that the state statute has changed. The result of the change is that if the owner applies for a building permit within 180 days of the damages, the structure can be rebuilt. Karen also noted that the city cannot be more restrictive than the state statute. Therefore, the ordinance must be

amended to reflect this change. The Planning Commission reviewed proposed language and felt it should be taken to the public hearing step.

DISCUSSION ON REPLACEMENT FOR MARLENE SCHELL

Karen Lauer read letters she had received from Kristal Rick and Jason Bolgrean regarding their interest in the Planning Commission vacancy. Planning Commission members discussed the candidates. All members indicated the community is fortunate to have five quality candidates interested in serving on the Planning Commission and that all of the candidates would be excellent members.

01-02-07-03 Motion by Fraedrich and seconded by Schell to recommend to the City Council to appoint Margaret Follingstad to the Planning Commission. Unanimously carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

01-02-07-04 Motion by Schell and seconded by Mortenson to elect Jeremy Krause as Chairman, Merlin Strom as Vice-Chairman, and Pat Berndt as Secretary/Treasurer. Unanimously carried.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ACTION STEPS

The Planning Commission briefly discussed the goals and objectives listed in the Comprehensive Plan. Marlene Schell noted that it may be good to wait on discussion until the new member is on the Commission. All members indicated their agreement. Before the next meeting, each Commission member will make a list of areas that need attention and also areas that have been addressed.

BUILDING PERMIT LIST

Planning Commission members reviewed the building permit list from December 1 through December 28, 2006.

OTHER ZONING CONCERNS – GROUP WORK CAMP

Karen Lauer noted that the work camp project has received eight applications from Clay and Wilkin Counties and the deadline is January 31. There is some concern that there will not be enough projects to hold this event. Roland Holm has identified twelve properties that may qualify and he will bring applications to the property owners. He will encourage them to apply and offer to assist them with the application. Karen encouraged everyone to recruit candidates for this project

The next Planning Commission meeting is Monday February 5, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

01-02-07-05 Motion by Strom and seconded by Fraedrich to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. Unanimously carried.

Submitted by:

Pat Berndt
Planning Commission Secretary