

**Barnesville Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 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, Margaret Follingstad, Jeremy Krause, Pat Berndt, and Karen Lauer, Acting Zoning Administrator.

Members absent: Gary Fraedrich, Mike Osten, and Aaron Grommesh.

Others present: Roland Holm, and Pam Aakre of the Record-Review.

AGENDA

07-02-07-01 Motion by Berndt and seconded by Strom to approve the agenda with the addition of Public Hearing-Rezoning Request under Other Zoning Concerns. Unanimously carried.

MINUTES

07-02-07-02 Motion by Strom and seconded by Mortenson to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2007 meeting. Unanimously carried.

ORDINANCE CHANGES

Planning Commission members reviewed the ordinance change pages to be inserted in their ordinance books.

YARD DEFINITIONS

Jeremy Krause reviewed the purpose of the changes to the yard definitions. Karen Lauer reviewed the language changes and the opinion received from John Shockley, City Attorney. Planning Commission members felt the language was good. It was consensus of the members to adjust one sentence in the Reverse Corner Lots definition as follows: "The front of the setback of the structures shall be aligned with the average of the setback distance of the existing buildings within 100 feet on both sides of any such lot." The changes in Yard Definitions will be brought to a future meeting for a public hearing.

OUTSIDE STORAGE OPTIONS

Karen Lauer reported that Gary Fraedrich had called and commented that he believes the Commission should address storage in downtown and residential areas, but that he sees value in the use of outside storage in industrial zones. Karen Lauer reported that the City Attorney will assist the Planning Commission in writing and ordinance once the Commission has established perimeters.

In residential zones, Commission members discussed the definition of outside storage units. The units would include rental storage cubes, van boxes, semi cargo boxes, and commercial containers. Each residence would be limited to one container. The maximum time a storage unit may be placed in a residential area should be ninety (90) days and must be stored on an existing driveway or in the side or back yard. The storage unit would not be able to extend into the right-of-way. The Commission members also discussed the use of storage units used for the purpose of loading household items during the moving process. It was the consensus of the members to allow dollied-down semi trailers in roadworthy condition on a driveway for seven (7) days or less.

In commercial zones, Commission members discussed the need to limit outside storage. Areas discussed were that storage should not be allowed in front of the building, must be screened from view, the length must be limited, and the height must be limited to eight (8) feet, and would be limited to one storage unit.

Also members discussed that truck trailer, van body, and truck box usage may not exceed thirty (30) days. Storage cubes should be a minimum of seventy-five (75) feet from Front Street. All storage must be off the right-of-way.

Karen Lauer will prepare a draft of the outside storage language and bring it to a future meeting for further discussion.

CHURCH SIGNS

Karen Lauer received a call from Hope Lutheran Brethren Church regarding the placement of a second sign on their property. The Planning Commission members reviewed the current language in Subd. 12. R-1 and R-2 Residential Signs. The current language allows one sign and the sign must be monument style rather than pole mounted. The sign currently at the church is 30 X 40 and is on a pole that is 52" above the ground. Commission members discussed the possibility of changing the language to allow up to two identification signs with the total of both signs not exceeding eighty square feet in aggregate area. Also discussed was the possibility of changing the language to allow a pole mounted sign as long as the total height of the sign and pole do not exceed eight feet. It was the consensus of the Commission members to continue discussion of this item at the next meeting when all members could be present and have input.

BUILDING PERMIT LIST

The Planning Commission reviewed the building permits for June 1 through June 27, 2007. Roland Holm noted he is addressing the issue of vacant buildings in the city and the fees related to those buildings. Karen Lauer noted that the projects on the up-coming work camp would not require a building permit.

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING REQUEST

Karen Lauer reported that she is expecting a request to rezone the land between Blue Eagle and the County Shop from R-3 to R-1. If the request is received, a public hearing on the matter would be required at the August meeting. Karen will provide all necessary background information and a staff recommendation at that time.

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

07-02-07-03 Motion by Strom and seconded by Mortenson to adjourn at 8:16 p.m. Unanimously carried.

Submitted by:

Pat Berndt
Planning Commission Secretary