



WALKERTOWN PLANNING BOARD MEETING WALKERTOWN LIBRARY AUDITORIUM

NOVEMBER 11, 2008 3:00 P.M.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Peggy Leight. Present were Ms. Leight, Al Slater, Harvey Neal, Kevin Briggs (serving as Board) along with Clerk Lynn McKinnie, Attorney Bo Houff and Scott Snow. There was no one in audience!

The agenda was amended to include the following items:

3. Approve Ordinance #02-004 which had been amended at an earlier meeting for presentation to the Town Council for final approval;
4. Recommendation to the Town Council for the new year Planning Board members and alternates;
5. To review commercial properties in Walkertown and decide how many there are and what they are and how many are vacant;
6. Review of do-nut holes and where the town stands on annexation.

On a motion by Al Slater, seconded by Harvey Neal, the amended agenda was unanimously approved.

The Planning Board minutes for October 7, 2008 were approved unanimously by motion of Al Slater with second by Harvey Neal.

PUBLIC SESSION - Please limit your talk to 3 minutes.

As there were no people in the audience to speak, the Public Session was opened and closed at 3:02 p.m.

BUSINESS AT HAND

1. SELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF WALKERTOWN PLANNING BOARD

MOTION: TO NOMINATE **AL SLATER** AS CHAIRPERSON FOR THE PLANNING BOARD FOR 2009

BY: PEGGY LEIGHT

SECOND: KEVIN BRIGGS

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

2. SELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON OF WALKERTOWN PLANNING BOARD

MOTION: TO NOMINATE **PEGGY LEIGHT** AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR THE PLANNING BOARD FOR 2009

BY: HARVEY NEAL
SECOND: AL SLATER
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

- 3. ORDINANCE #02-004 CHANGES and
- 4. PLANNING BOARD APPOINTEES FOR 2009

The original establishment of the Planning Board ordinance (#02-004 dated October 22, 2002) has been discussed at earlier Planning Board meetings and changes were made at those meetings. It was never presented to the Town Council for final approval. One of the issues was to keep track of attendance at meetings and the Planning Board stated that this issue was one which should be adhered to. (Lynn will track members by a spreadsheet.) Attorney Houff mentioned that the Board might want to change the members' terms from January to December to something like March to February – this would prevent having all new council members and board members at the same time. (After council elections, the new council takes over in December.)

Another issue discussed was the fact that no one has applied to be either a regular or an alternate member. Lynn will advertise for members in the newspaper (Kernersville News); however, the process of applying for a position is already listed on the town's website. (townofwalkertown.com)

The Board approved presenting the Ordinance (#02-004) with previously amended recommendations by the Planning Board to the Town Council for their approval, which Lynn will put on the council agenda of November 20th for approval.

The Town Council will be asked to appoint a member for the year 2009 to replace Don Whitaker, whose term ends December 31, 2008.

The Town Council will also be asked to appoint three alternate members to serve for the 2009 year. (Current alternates include: Brenda Mabe, Larry Marshall, and Kevin Briggs.)

MOTION: TO LEAVE THE PLANNING BOARD TERMS AS LISTED IN THE ORDINANCE (DECEMBER 31ST TO DECEMBER 31ST)

BY: HARVEY NEAL
SECOND: KEVIN BRIGGS

MOTION: TO PRESENT THE PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS OF ORDINANCE #02-004 TO THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR FINAL APPROVAL

BY: AL SLATER
SECOND: KEVIN BRIGGS

- 5. REVIEW OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES IN WALKERTOWN

Ms. Leight asked if there were any means of determining how many commercial properties were in Walkertown and if so, what and where they are – and how many are vacant. The short answer is “no way”. Lynn keeps a Privilege License list, which shows the businesses which exist as far as she knows. Some have closed in the more recent past and there are a number of businesses that either don't know the privilege license tax exists – or simply don't care and will not respond to requests for payment.

By consensus, the Board decided to TABLE this issue and put on January agenda.

Lynn will provide the Planning Board with a copy of the town's privilege license address list. (Nothing other than the name and address will be provided.)

6. REVIEW OF DO-NUT HOLES AND ANNEXATION

A brief discussion was held on annexation and where the town stands on the issue – as well as what the town is doing to annex do-nut holes into the town. Lynn has four residential properties in the process of being annexed but Ms. Leight wanted to know how to get more properties in. Attorney Houff explained the pros and cons of legislative action to annex and also the pros and cons of “forced or involuntary” versus “voluntary” annexation. This is a hot topic with the NC League of Municipalities also.

By consensus of the Board, this topic was TABLED with no further date mentioned to be re-examined.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2008 MEETING SCHEDULE

LIBRARY @ 3:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 2ND

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 3:48 P.M.
BY: AL SLATER
SECOND: KEVIN BRIGGS

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn McKinnie
Planning Board Secretary