

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

Regular Meeting, November 17, 2016

Call to Order, Chairman West

The Transylvania County Planning Board met in regular session on Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 7:00pm in the Community Services Building Conference Room. Members present were Chair Mike West, Maureen Copelof, and Mack McNeely. Kris Hovey was absent (excused) and Daryle Hogsed was absent. A quorum was not met.

Staff members present were County Planner Joy Fields and Program Assistant Kalen Lawson. Planning & Community Development Director Mark Burrows was absent. One citizen was present and no media were present.

I. Welcome

II. Public Comment

Gregory Heirs, resident of Glen Cannon, asked about the billboards along 280 wondering if the Planning Board has jurisdiction. Joy Fields explained sign-face sizes in the current county ordinance and noted that the City of Brevard has their own sign ordinance that is different than the county's.

III. Approval of Agenda

A quorum was not met to approve the November 17, 2016 agenda.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A quorum was not met to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2016 regular meeting.

V. Subdivision Approvals and Updates

Joy Fields notified the Planning Board that six (6) exception plats and no subdivisions have been approved since October 20, 2016.

VI. Old Business: Sign Ordinance Update

Joy Fields distributed suggested revisions to the existing Transylvania County Sign Ordinance for the planning board's consideration noting that NC State legislation over the last year will require our county to update our ordinance because we cannot regulate signs based upon their content (protection of free speech). In preparation for the January 2017 Planning Board Meeting, staff will:

- highlight items in the current ordinance that are tied to NC General Statutes and cannot be edited.
- issue a list of state sign restrictions, including those from NC DOT.
- issue an electronic version of the suggested ordinance for planning board members to mark-up.

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VII. New Business:

A. Planning & Community Development Department Update

- Joy Fields gave an update on the HOME Funds application approved by the Board of Commissioners to refurbish four homes. The Asheville Regional Housing Consortium will announce awards in December.
- A grant for funding a Comprehensive Bicycling Plan was submitted.
- A Letter of Interest and a Pre-Application were submitted to the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) Emerging Opportunities to support wayfinding signs throughout the county. Planning & Community Development staff will present the grant opportunity to the Board of Commissioners in December.
- The Planning & Community Development Department is compiling information on Transylvania County Community Centers and will be holding a networking/resource meeting in January.
- Project Empathy will host a dinner in Rosman on December 1st with Pedro Sandin speaking.

B. Flood Documentary, "Come Hell or High Water – The Great Flood of 1916"

- The documentary film was played and a short discussion followed.

VIII. Public Comments

- Gregory Heirs, resident of Glen Cannon, asked who the Planning Board members are and how the Planning Board works. Each member introduced themselves and their role.

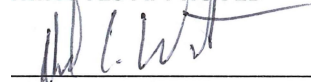
IX. Planning Board Member Comments

- Maureen Copelof suggested the Planning Board press the Board of Commissioners to expediently review the 2025 Comprehensive Plan draft.
- Mack McNeely asked about the status of the draft plan that is in the Board of Commissioners.
- Mike West stated he was glad to be here and thanked everyone. He stated the draft 2025 Comprehensive Plan is in the Board of Commissioners' hands.

X. Adjourn

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES APPROVED



Mike West, Chair

Kalen Lawson, Recording Secretary