

MINUTES OF THE WHITSETT PLANNING BOARD
December 3, 2008
Whitsett Town Hall

The monthly meeting of the Whitsett Planning Board was held at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at the Whitsett Town Hall. In attendance: Board Chairman Bob Maccia, Board member Patrick Hickey, Jr., Board alternate Homer Moser, and Council member Jerry Rice. Absent: Board Vice Chairman Joe Wheeler, Board members Ella Efirid, Evelyn Rutkoski, and alternate Paul Lewis. Also present was Rock Creek reporter Jamie Kennedy.

Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia called the meeting to order, noting that a quorum was present; and then seated Board alternate Homer Moser to vote.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Minutes

Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia asked for any changes to the minutes from the last-held Planning Board meeting on October 1, 2008. Motion made by Board alternate Homer Moser to adopt the minutes from the October 1 meeting as presented; seconded by Board member Patrick Hickey. Adoption of the minutes carried by unanimous quorum vote.

2. Any Other Old Business

Board Chairman Maccia asked for any other old business; and there was none.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss Appointments to 2009 Planning Board

Board Chairman Maccia explained that the terms of two members and one alternate were due to expire at the end of 2008 and needed to be extended to 2011. The two members were Joe Wheeler and Evelyn Rutkoski, and the alternate was Homer Moser. Chairman Maccia further stated that regrettably Evelyn Rutkoski would not be returning to fill a Board seat due to family illness; however, would like to remain involved in planning issues and assist the Board in any way she can when available.

Chairman Maccia asked for approval from those present to extend the terms of Vice Chairman Joe Wheeler and alternate Homer Moser for another three-year term so that a 2009 roster of Planning Board members and alternates could be submitted to the Town Council members for approval at their January meeting. A motion was made by Board member Patrick Hickey to recommend the 2009 Planning Board roster to the Town Council; motion seconded by alternate Homer Moser. Motion passed unanimously.

The new membership roster, if approved as is by Council, will leave the Planning Board with three vacancies—one member and two alternates.

2. Discuss Additional Refinements to Sections on Outdoor Storage

Planning Board Chairman Maccia stated that relative to this matter, Town Administrator Gary Deal and he had met with Ginger Booker of the Piedmont Triad Council of Government to determine distinction between the two terms “conditional-use” [zoning] and “special-use [permitting], and then to clarify and simplify the current wording in the applicable sections of the Town development ordinance book.

Chairman Maccia explained that deciphering and revising these areas may take some time due to the limiting time that Ginger Booker has to devote to this task; but stated that Gary and he would continue to monitor progress and meet with PTCOG as frequently as possible to bring resolve to the complexity of the sections and the public comment process.

3. Distribute 2009 Meeting Schedule

Board Chairman Bob Maccia distributed copies of the 2009 Planning Board meeting schedule to those present, and asked for concurrence on maintaining the first Wednesday of each month as meeting night. Concurrence was unanimous with those present. The Board’s 2009 meeting schedule will be presented to the Council in January along with the recommended membership roster.

4. Any Other New Business

Board Chairman Bob Maccia asked for any other new business to be discussed; and Board member Patrick Hickey asked for the latest word on the contaminated wells and funding for remediation. It was explained that a grant application for \$728,000 had been submitted to the State in September; and no status was being offered by the State to Benchmark, the Town’s contractor. The Town still hopes to hear something in early 2009.

Chairman Maccia continued by mentioning that Gary Deal had attended the first of several meetings on the proposed Jordan Lake Rules. The meeting had been long and drawn out with no details learned as to how the proposed requirements would specifically affect or involve Whitsett; but that determination will be sought.

Next, Chairman Maccia reported that Summerfield had provided a proposed ordinance prohibiting sex offenders from entering their town's parks and recreational facilities. This document had been forwarded to Whitsett's town attorney Bill Trevor for review and comment.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, Planning Board Chairman Bob Maccia invited a motion to adjourn. Motion made by seated Board alternate Homer Moser to adjourn; motion seconded by Board member Patrick Hickey. By unanimous quorum vote, the December 3 meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

The next meeting of the Whitsett Planning Board is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 7 at the Town Hall. [Subsequently, the January 7 meeting was cancelled, making the next meeting to be February 4, 2009.]

/s/

/s/

Jo Hesson, Town Clerk

Bob Maccia, Planning Board Chairman

APPROVED: February 4, 2009