

**TOWN OF ROCKY MOUNT
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 3, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

The Planning Commission of the Town of Rocky Mount, Virginia met in the Council Chambers of the Rocky Mount Municipal Building, located at 345 Donald Avenue, Rocky Mount, Virginia, at 6:00 p.m. on August 3, 2021, for its regular monthly meeting with Madame Chair Janet Stockton presiding.

Commission Members Present:

- Chair, Janet Stockton
- Vice Chair, John Speidel
- Member John Tiggle
- Member Ina Clements
- Member Derwin Hall
- Member Jerry Greer

Staff Members Present:

- Town Planner/Planning & Zoning Administrator, Jessica H. Heckman
- Planning Commission Clerk, Cherie Compton
- Town Attorney, John Boitnott

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Additions or Corrections: None

Motion: To approve the agenda as presented

Motion By: Member Ina Clements

Second: Member John Tiggle

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Let the record show that prior to the meeting, the Planning Commission received the following draft minutes for review and consideration of approval:

June 1, 2021-Regular Meeting Minutes

Additions or Corrections: None

Motion: To approve as presented

Motion By: Vice Chairman John Speidel

Second: Member Ina Clements

Action: Approved by unanimous vote of members present

PUBLIC HEARING

None at this time

REPORT OF PLANNING & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Town Planner Jessica Heckman gave updates on

- New branding for the Town has been mostly completed and should be launched in September
- Access will be out and about Saturday doing some of the recording and photo shots for the Branding in Town
- Ribbon cutting for Fork Mountain Quilting is set for Thursday at 10:00 a.m.
- First Fridays on Franklin is this Friday
- J&J Fashions building has been sold
- Christian Heritage Academy has bought the property out on Cornell Road
- Site Plans being reviewed right now are Proampac, Probation Office, Starbucks and Center Stage
- Next month after the Ordinance Review Committee meets there will be possibly three public hearings for home occupation definition, building heights requirements, commercial vehicle definition and possibly food truck ordinance will be added after review from staff.
- La Casa Del Burrito is moving into the old Buddys BBQ location

An open discussion ensued.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

None at this time

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time

NEW BUSINESS

Town Planner Jessica Heckman presented members with a zoning map in order to review Leonor Street and surround residential business districts that were referred from the Board of Zoning Appeals. There was discussion about the current zoning as well as the possibility of changing the zoning to Residential District R2 in order to protect the character of the neighborhood. Next step would be to review every parcel in the district to determine that there will not be a large number of nonconforming uses with the downzoning. An open discussion ensued. Staff indicated that such a review would take some time.

Member Derwin Hall expressed concern about an exit from Diamond Avenue Extension. Member Jerry Greer and Town Attorney John Boitnott stated that there was an agreement with a property owner in place for an emergency vehicle access way if the train tracks are blocked or incase of an emergency but not for a public everyday use, private use only.

Member Jerry Greer asked about sidewalk down Franklin. Jessica Heckman stated that there will be a sidewalk extended from Downtown to Celeste Park as part of a grant funded project. Chairman Janet Stockton hearing no further comments entertained a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn By: Member Jerry Greer

Second: Member Ina Clements

Action: Approved by a unanimous vote of members present

Time of Adjournment: 6:35 p.m.

Janet Stockton, Chairman

ATTEST:

Cherie Compton, Clerk

{This page was left blank intentionally}