

MINUTES
MOUNT VERNON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
DECEMBER 9, 2015

The Mount Vernon Planning and Zoning Commission met December 9, 2015 at Mount Vernon City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Truman Jordan, Trude Elliott, Richard Peterson, Joan Burge and Matthew Nelson. Absent: Rich Hileman, Jenna Wischmeyer. Also in attendance, Zoning Administrator, Matt Siders. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Truman Jordan at 6:33 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda and November 4, 2015 minutes. These documents stand approved unless otherwise indicated by Commission members.
2. Open Forum: each citizen limited to 5 minutes per discussion item.
3. Discussion and possible action regarding proposed Comprehensive Plan updates. Chad Sands with ECICOG explained that the updated draft of the plan that was provided to the commission prior to tonight's meeting contained all of the changes that were discussed at the last Planning and Zoning meeting. The list of committee members and updated Council has not been updated yet. Sands had received a list of suggestions from the Sustainability Committee as well that he thought could be incorporated into the draft in some form. There was a large paragraph in those suggestions that the Sustainability Committee would like to have added to the Executive Summary as well as minor additions/changes throughout the plan but it was the consensus of the commission that at this point in the planning process, only minor changes would be incorporated. The following changes will be made to the draft: P. 3 – Added page for additional acknowledgements (updated page numbers throughout plan) [note: Matt Siders will get me updated lists for inclusion in the plan] P. 7 – Added “environmentally conscientious and sustainable“ to the 1st sentence of the 2nd paragraph P. 7 – Added “environmental stewardship” to the list in the 2nd sentence of the Quality of Life paragraph P. 36 – Added new page to accommodate the new 1st paragraph, new picture and updated 1st sentence of the second paragraph for continuity P. 57 – Corrected spelling of bioswales in 3rd paragraph and eliminated the word “green” in the 1st sentence of the 3rd paragraph P. 89 – Added “best land management and conservation practices” to number 5 P. 98 – Added last goal of the Quality of Life matrix.

Planning and Zoning will be holding a public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan at the January 13th meeting.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding rental regulations for City of Mount Vernon. Jordan said at the last meeting in November, the consensus

of the commission was to move forward with a rental ordinance but they would wait until the new City administration comes in before they take it to Council. What he would like to do before that is discuss what types of items should be in the ordinance. The commission used a sample ordinance from the City of Waverly as a basis for discussion. Jordan went over a suggested list of items to incorporate into a rental ordinance. Siders also informed the commission of an upcoming “social host” ordinance that the Police Department is going to bring before Council. This would address tougher consequences for underage drinking and drug use. This would be in addition to a rental ordinance. There was also discussion on the definition of family needing to be clarified if this ordinance goes forward, as well as tenant and landlord responsibilities. Jordan will bring these issues before City Council and find out if there is a consensus to pursue this type of ordinance.

5. Zoning Administrator Report. Board of Adjustment approved the Conditional Use Permit that was brought before Planning and Zoning at their last meeting. Diagonal parking is being eliminated in the north City parking lot. There will be some discussions coming up on a “fringe area” agreement for developments within the 2 mile radius of Mount Vernon.
6. Old Business. Design Standards will be discussed at a future meeting.
7. New Business.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Dewell
Deputy Clerk