

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Monday, May 16, 2005, at 8:30am in the Conference Room of the County Office Building, 90 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss land-use planning.

Present: Chair Eldon Edwards, Vice-Chair Warren Taylor, Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon, Commissioner Ken Richardson, County Manager Don Adams and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans. Commissioner Graylen Blevins was present but arrived late. County Attorney Donna Shumate was absent.

Chair Eldon Edwards called the meeting to order at 8:30am and explained the purpose of this meeting to decide if and how to proceed with land-use.

The Board of Commissioners talked about the prior actions of the appointed committee concerning land-use. They further talked about the makeup of the prior committee and the amount of time spent on the plan originally.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about the time and effort put forth in the existing document. She talked about changing the document to fit today's world. She further talked about utilizing the document as a basis to make those changes instead of trying to completely redo the document.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins arrived at 8:35am.

Chair Eldon Edwards talked about the amount of valuable information in the document.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon stated that she would like to get input from various community representatives and would like to see the prior plan as the beginning. She talked about the plan being a good-neighbor policy. She further talked about this concept gives the citizens input on what happens in their community.

Chair Eldon Edwards talked about the recent event with the lawnmower racing track and how a plan would have affected that.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon stated that she would very much like to pursue this with input from the community and use the prior plan as a starting document to make changes that are necessary.

Chair Eldon Edwards talked about the Planner's responsibility in this action.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about the Planner being part of this committee and the Planner preparing the plan on behalf of the committee to submit to the Commissioners for approval.

Commissioner Warren Taylor talked about the Planner being the coordinator of the work with the Commissioners deciding what areas of the community that needs to be represented on the committee. He talked about the number of the people for the last committee and the number needed to cover all of the areas of the community.

Commissioner Ken Richardson talked about each Commissioner submitting 2 or 3 people's names for a 10-15 member committee. He further talked about the previous plan having 15 articles with 8 applying now. He talked about the Planner looking at those articles and bringing information back to the Commissioners. He stated the articles that have already been resolved through other actions by the Board. He further stated that one of the comments he received last time was that the plan was too detailed and that is something everyone needs to keep in mind.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins asked if the Board has gone back to the original plan.

Chair Eldon Edwards stated that is what the Board is discussing, and the original plan has a lot of

valuable information.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins talked about circulating copies of the original plan in the community. He stated that he liked the idea of creating a committee where each Commissioner submits names for the committee.

Chair Eldon Edwards summarized the Board's discussions by stating each Commissioner will provide the Planner with two or three names for the committee and setting up a coordinated effort.

Commissioner Warren Taylor, Chair Eldon Edwards and Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about the need to look at the names submitted to make sure all areas are represented on this committee.

Commissioner Warren Taylor asked about a budget for this process in order to compensate people for their time and effort serving on this committee.

Commissioner Ken Richardson talked about the committee volunteers need assurance that this will be looked at and the need for a target completion date.

Chair Eldon Edwards and Commissioner Warren Taylor talked about supplying the committee names to the Planner and the possibility of having problems getting people to serve on the committee.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon talked about the need to commit to pursuing this action and to look at whatever is presented by the committee.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins stated that he thinks these discussions should be on the night meeting agendas in order to allow the public more access. Also, he stated that most people want land use but in moderation.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon agreed that whatever comes from the committee should be reviewed and considered by the Board.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon made a motion to proceed with the land-use guidance plan development. Commissioner Warren Taylor seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon, Commissioner Ken Richardson and Commissioner Warren Taylor talked about different articles in the original plan and articles that have already been addressed.

Chair Eldon Edwards asked the Board to submit their names to the Planner by the first of the month.

Amy Pardue, Planner/Recreation Director, asked the Board what final outcome they are looking for in the plan.

Commissioner Sandy Carter Herndon referred to Article 1 in the original plan about protecting the safety, health and general welfare of the citizens without depriving individual property owners of their rights.

Commissioner Warren Taylor talked about the intent of the plan, some uses are exempt and the process for change of use.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins and Commissioner Warren Taylor discussed a timeframe to complete the plan.

County Manager Don Adams stated that he recommends the Board to discuss potential members for the committee and to create a list of goals for the committee in order for the committee to know their expectations.

Commissioner Warren Taylor asked about money in the budget for supplies.

Amy Pardue stated that she has some money available.

Commissioner Graylen Blevins asked Amy Pardue about how her time is spent between planning and recreation.

Amy Pardue explained how her time currently is spent mainly on recreation due to Little League is starting. She further explained the timeframe for the sports that the recreation department is working with.

The Board of Commissioners, County Manager Don Adams and Amy Pardue discussed the other Planning/Recreation department employee being out on maternity leave for another three weeks, following through with recreation and planning activities, temporary help for the three weeks and the amount of time that would be needed to train someone for that short period of time.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Eldon Edwards  
Chairman