

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road – Conference Room A
Woodstock, IL 60098

Minutes of Thursday, May 1, 2008

Barbara Wheeler, Chairman
Randy Donley Mary L. Donner
Jim Heisler Peter Merkel
Marc Munaretto Virginia Peschke

Chairman Wheeler called the Planning and Development Committee meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following members were present: Barbara Wheeler; Mary Donner; Virginia Peschke; Randy Donley; Peter Merkel; and Marc Munaretto. Jim Heisler arrived at 9:25 a.m. Also in attendance: Planning and Development Department staff members; Peter Austin, County Administrator; and interested public.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Ms. Peschke, to approve the regular session minutes of the April 3, 2008 Planning and Development Committee meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

SUBDIVISIONS

Tentative Plat Extension – Canterbury Bluff: Ms. Peschke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Munaretto, to approve a tentative plat extension for Canterbury Bluff. The motion carried with a voice vote of all ayes.

OLD BUSINESS

Planning Commission Vacancies – RPC Recommendation: Ms. Ehardt reported that the Planning Commission has recommended that the two vacant positions on the commission not be filled at this time. Mr. Munaretto expressed his concerns that there needs to be an equal representation on the Commission and if the vacant positions were not filled this equal representation may be lacking for Districts 1 and 3. Ms. Ehardt reported that the work being done by the Commission is anticipated to be completed in January or February of 2009. She noted that sub-committees have completed their work and reports are being presented to the Commission. Absenteeism has not presented a concern and there has been no lack of a quorum at Commission meetings. She stated she would tend to agree with the Commission's recommendation but understood Mr. Munaretto's concerns. After discussion, Mr. Munaretto asked if this decision could be put on hold until the next meeting. He stated he would try to recruit someone who may be interested in filling the vacancy and if this was not possible he would agree to the Commission's recommendation. Chairman Wheeler stated the Committee would agree to consider this at the next meeting, noting that she would not like the work of the Commission to be delayed as timing is a concern.

NEW BUSINESS

Proclamation for National Preservation Week: Ms. Peschke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner, to recommend the County Board approve a Proclamation for National Preservation Week. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes. It was noted that there are several group activities being planned throughout the month of May in celebration of local history.

MCCD Interviews: The following applicants for appointment to the McHenry County Conservation District were interviewed by the Planning and Development Committee members: Allan Reckamp and Jerry Roberts. Mr. Reckamp is currently a self-employed farmer living in Harvard. Mr. Roberts is a retired individual currently living in Huntley. Chairman Wheeler thanked both applicants and noted that additional interviews would be held during the June meeting. All applicants would be informed of the Committee's final decision.

Approved: 6/5/08

Members discussed the possibility of re-advertising for the MCCD appointments. After discussion, the Committee directed staff to place an ad extending the deadline for MCCD applications. They also asked that previous applications be reviewed to see if an individual may be interested in submitting an application this year.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE, AS APPLICABLE:

Stormwater: Ms. Ehardt announced that the Stormwater Engineer position has been filled by Mark Phipps. She stated that the Stormwater Commission approved re-instating the Technical Advisory Committee at their meeting last evening. Letters will be sent out to communities for re-certification. She reported that some smaller communities have claimed they were unaware of the process. She noted that the Commission is trying to address concerns and working out any problems.

CMAA: A meeting was held last week in Belvidere.

MCCD: The Board continues with land acquisitions and work on the comprehensive plan. Mr. Merkel noted that Bonnie Leahy's term will be expiring on June 30th and asked that she be honored for her work on the MCCD Board at a County Board meeting. Mr. Austin stated a presentation to Ms. Leahy could be done during the July 15th County Board meeting.

Planning Commission: The next meeting is scheduled for May 8th. The Commission will be completing the water resources chapter and reviewing the open space chapter. The next chapter to be worked on will most likely be agriculture.

Imagine McHenry County: A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7th to continue their discussion of goals and objectives. Mr. Munaretto stated that this group has been struggling for the past several months to find a purpose and it appears to have lost sight of their goals. He noted that with no set purpose it is a non-functioning entity and a discussion on continued support of this organization should be considered and the County's affiliation needs to be evaluated. It was noted that to attend such unproductive meetings takes valuable time from staff and members. Chairman Wheeler stated she would contact Imagine McHenry County and discuss the Committee's concerns.

MISCELLANEOUS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Ms. Peschke, to adjourn at 9:42 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:
Proclamation for National Preservation Week