

**AMHERST COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 03, 2011  
MINUTES**

**VIRGINIA**

A public meeting for the Amherst County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, November 03, 2011, in the Board of Supervisors Room located in the Administration Building at 153 Washington Street, Amherst VA.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Donald Hedrick, Chairman  
Mitch Heishman, Vice-chairman  
George Brine  
Leslie Irvin  
Derin Foor  
Beverly Jones  
Donald Kidd, Board Liaison

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jeremy Bryant, Director of Planning/Zoning  
Matthew Rowe, Planner/Assistant Zoning Administrator  
Stacey Stinnett, Administrative Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hedrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was amended by adding item number four: Urban Development Areas – Discussion.

**Planning Commission Recommendation:**

**Motion:** Jones                      Moved to approve the amended agenda.  
**Second:** Foor  
**The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.**

**3. SITE PLAN**

- A. Snowden Float Company – Rusty Richeson #0611-SP-001  
In accordance with Section 1103 of the Code of Amherst County, a minor site plan has been submitted by Rusty Richeson (Snowden Float Company) for a float

and rafting company which utilizes existing non-conforming structures, and the creation of a (17) space parking area on property located at 8424 Elon Road in the community of Snowden, Virginia. Copies of the plans were reviewed by the Development Review Committee on June 9, 2011. The following sections summarize staff and agency comments with respect to the major elements of the plan.

Mr. Rowe gave the staff report and stated that staff recommends approval of the site plan with the following conditions:

1. Per Section 602.02, all new parking areas and aisles must be surface treated or paved.
2. The vault privy must be reviewed and approved by the local office of the Virginia Department of Health.
3. All exterior lighting shall be glare shielded and directional to reflect away from adjacent properties per Section 602.02(2). The direction/angle of the luminaries/lighting fixtures should be in a manner to ensure that light pollution and glare will not invade surrounding properties/right-of-way.

Mr. Irvin asked staff that the term vaulted privy be defined. Mr. Irvin also asked the applicant if seventeen (17) parking spaces was adequate space for parking. The applicant, stated that if need be, they had permission to use property along the back of the building and up the hill for parking. He said that issue could be addressed when the time arises.

Mr. Kidd asked if the applicants were pleased with Staff recommendations. Mrs. Smith, applicant, stated that she had not seen these recommendations. Mr. Rowe explained to the Planning Commission members that the recommendations were emailed to the Richeson's surveyor. Mr. Richeson spoke up and said that he had seen these conditions before and he had no problem with them.

**Planning Commission Recommendations:**

**Motion:** Irvin

Motion to approve site plan under the staff recommendations.

**Second:** Brine

**The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.**

**4. URBAN DEVELOPMENT AREAS-DISCUSSION**

Ms. Bowyer, the County Attorney for Amherst County, gave a brief presentation. In her presentation she reminded the Planning Commission members the County must enact the ordinance on or before December 31, 2011, in order to avoid repayment of \$50,000 in consultant fees. The schedule provided for presentation of the ordinance to the Board of

Supervisors on November 15, 2011; a public hearing by the Planning Commission on November 17, 2011; and a public hearing by the Board of Supervisors on December 20, 2011.

## **5. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

There was brief discussion about the last Old Town Madison Heights Subcommittee (which had its second meeting this afternoon). The subcommittee's plan is to meet with the Old Town Madison Heights Citizen Development Group and work through some of the set back issues that have occurred. Mr. Kidd announced that he thought these meetings were held the second Monday of every month and that Janice Camden was the chairperson. Mr. Bryant stated that the Business Taskforce Meetings are also held the second Monday of every month, therefore, he may have to get in touch with Mrs. Camden to see if the date can be changed.

There was discussion regarding the absentee record of members of the Business Taskforce, making sure that all members try to attend. Mr. Bryant stated that memorandums and agenda's are mailed to the members, the meeting is advertised on the website and is posted on the activity board located in the Planning & Zoning Office and in the hallway in the Office Complex.

Mr. Bryant will bring up at the December 1, 2011 Planning Commission Meeting the top six (6) amendments they feel are the most important issues to target.

Mr. Irvin stated that six (6) amendments were not enough and that realistically the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors needed to re-evaluate this issue.

Mr. Heishman commented from a commercial standpoint that it was very impressive to see how soon the Madison Heights McDonald's building and business went back up.

## **6. MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2011**

There was some discussion on the violation section of the report. Mr. Heishman asked where these violations occurred in the County. Mr. Bryant replied that one was located on Main Street in Madison Heights and the other was on Ragland Rd, however, both violations have been resolved.

Mr. Hedrick commented on the number of new water accounts reflected in this month and commented that soon the annual report would be due.

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 06, 2011**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Planning Commission Recommendations:**

**Motion:** Jones

Motion to approve the Minutes for October 06, 2011.

**Second:** Heishman

**The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Planning Commission Recommendations:**

**Motion:** Foor

Motion to adjourn.

**Second:** Irvin

**The motion carried by a 6-0 vote.**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Chairman

/ss/11.17.11