

**AMHERST COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2014
MINUTES**

VIRGINIA

A public meeting for the Amherst County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, January 2, 2014, in the Board of Supervisors Room located in the Administration Building at 153 Washington Street, Amherst, VA.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Leslie Irvin, Chairman
Derin Foor, Vice Chairman
Michael Martineau
Beverly Jones
Lillian Floyd

MEMBERS ABSENT: George Brine
Donald Kidd, Board of Supervisors Liaison

STAFF PRESENT: Jeremy Bryant, Director of Planning/Zoning
Austin Mitchell, Assistant Zoning Administrator/Planner

STAFF ABSENT: Stacey Stinnett, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Citizens Comments
4. Draft Text of Proposed Zoning Amendments
 - A. Breweries
5. Discussion of Discretionary Aspects of the Zoning Ordinance
6. Monthly Report for December 2013
7. Discussion of meeting Dates for 2014 Calendar Year
8. Old/New Business
9. Adjournment

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Planning Commission Action:

Motion: Jones Motion to approve the agenda.

Second: Foor

The motion carried by a 5-0 vote

3. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were none.

4. DRAFT OF PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENTS

A. Breweries

Mr. Mitchell read the draft definition of a Brewery that staff had written:

***Brewery.* A facility for the production and packaging of malt beverages of low alcoholic content for distribution, retail, or wholesale, on or off premise. The development may include other uses such as a restaurant as otherwise allowed in the zoning district.**

Breweries will be a special exception use in the A-1 Agricultural, V-1 Village District and as permitted in the B-2 General Commercial District and the M-1 Industrial District.

Planning Commission Action:

Motion: Jones

Motion to remove the word "malt" from the Brewery Definition and submit the draft to the County Attorney to be put into the form of an ordinance and returned for the Planning Commission to review.

Second: Martineau

The motion carried by a 5-0 vote

5. DISCUSSION OF DISCRETIONARY ASPECTS OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE

Mr. Bryant briefly explained that the County Attorney questioned whether the County should be exempt from certain aspects of the zoning ordinance (examples: building permits, zoning permits, fee's, signs, public hearings, etc.). Mr. Bryant stated that he felt if citizens and business owners were required to pay certain fees and guidelines then the County should be accountable as well.

The Planning Commission agreed.

The Planning Commission came to a consensus that this would be further discussed at the next meeting.

6. MONTHLY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2013

Mr. Bryant commented that December months are usually slower. Mr. Bryant also stated that single family dwellings for that year have increased from previous years.

7. DISCUSSION OF MEETING DATES FOR 2014 CALENDAR YEAR

Planning Commission Action:

Motion: Foor

Motion to continue Planning Commission Meetings on the first and the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

Second: Martineau

The motion carried by a 5-0 vote

8. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Martineau asked if Staff could look into the Planning Commissioners getting photo identification badges, similar to that of the school boards, so that when they are visiting these sites the applicants know who they are.

Mr. Bryant agreed and stated that he would be happy to look into this and get back with him at the next Planning Commission Meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Motion: Foor Motion to adjourn.

Second: Floyd

The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

/ss/1.24.14


Chairman