

Planning Board
October 8, 2012
6:30 pm
Council Chambers
Minutes & General Account

Planning Board Members Present: Kerry Miller, Chair; Art Wise; Sarah Glanville; Dot Perdue; John Capes (alternate for Eddie Oakley)

Town Council Liaison: Lynn Montgomery

Staff Present: Matthew Johnson and Martha Wolfe

Visitors Present: Carol Brooks of the Jamestown News

1. Call to Order – Kerry Miller called the meeting to order. He thanked Eddie Oakley for presiding over the meeting last month. Miller was unable to attend due to a family matter.
2. Approval of minutes from September 10, 2012 meeting – Art Wise made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Dot Perdue made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. Review and discussion of the Town of Jamestown 2020 Land Development Plan – Johnson stated pages 1 – 26 of the 2020 Land Development Plan deal with tables & numbers which need to be updated due to new data over the last 6 years.

Johnson asked the Planning Board for their feedback from the review of these pages.

Art Wise asked regarding page 3 – If the Town still receives any income from the ABC revenues. Johnson explained that when Jamestown and High Point merged ABC stores, there was a contractual agreement whereby Jamestown receives a set amount of funds each year from the High Point ABC system. These funds go into the general fund.

The Planning Board discussed the private and public schools and if we could find the % of kids that go to private verses public schools. Also, update the list of area schools and add Hayes-Inman school. Update the demographic table on page 5.

Johnson asked if the Planning Board was content with the peer communities used on page 5. The Planning Board had no objections.

- Clemmons
- Elon
- Oak Ridge
- Stokesdale

Johnson said that staff can update the tables.

Johnson presented copies from the 2020 LDP Section 5 Implementation and a list from 2011 updates of action recommendations showing their status and if the actions were complete.

Johnson said we have completed many of the actions recommended. Exceptions as follows:

- Historic district guidelines – This was in progress but has been delayed
- Sidewalk improvement and expansion program – We do not have this in place. However, this year he and the Town Manager have been working on some sidewalk projects that will be completed this year.
- Downtown Revitalization Committee – Johnson said this was currently in the discussion phase. A group of citizens continue to work on this and will bring this information back to the Planning Board.
- Establish well-funded greenway trail building program - Due to economic climate this is hard to do.
- Downtown Revitalization Plan and beautification of downtown areas - There has been little progress on these actions.
- Develop river access sites - Discussion is currently in progress
- Develop small pocket parks – In progress

Johnson said if the Planning Board would like to update this plan then we need to come up with a good list of recommendations to implement.

Johnson then went over Section 3 – Community Values – He stated the first time we worked on this plan, we missed getting the involvement needed. This plan tells us what people want and how the Town will look. It gives staff the direction we need when considering rezoning or when the Planning Board and the Council considers rezoning. Staff needs to know if these community values are accurate. Johnson feels we need to do a better job of engaging the whole community.

Johnson asked the PB to read Section 3.3 – A Vision for Jamestown in the year 2020. Miller asked the Planning Board to read table 3.1 “Top Ten” Issues from Jamestown Town Meeting May 2007. Miller asked the Planning Board if they felt these issues were still relevant or have priorities and focus changed. In the top ten issues, Planning Board agreed we should add parking to issue #6 – traffic and congestion & speeding. Johnson said during the Main Street NCDOT resurfacing project currently going on, some traffic calming devices will be implemented, such as pedestrian refuge. DOT is receptive to doing these projects, but we have to have the plans and engineer specifications in place before DOT will consider the projects. DOT is going to do the crosswalks at Gannaway. Capes asked if it would behoove the Town to have engineered plans of certain streets/pedestrian projects completed to be ready for the next time DOT is working in Jamestown jurisdiction.

Johnson said the Town has received some enhancement funds from DOT to be used for sidewalks. It is conceivable if the Town can show need for a project, we can submit to DOT for enhancement funding. Miller asked if the Planning Board felt the Town has

succeeded at improving these top 10 issues. Johnson said there has not been much development to compare some of these issues.

Johnson asked again for the Planning Board members to review the vision for Jamestown in the Year 2020, page 64 and to review the Appendix. He would like to know if this needs to be updated. He would like to be sure we get it right moving forward.

Glanville asked if the Jamestown Village Apartment Complex was getting better. She saw the new management sign. Montgomery said she noticed the parking lot has been cleaned up and the old cars have been removed.

Miller asked about the Bypass and if it needs to be updated. Johnson said the bypass section that goes to Greensboro is underway. The bypass section that goes to High Point is still not funded. Johnson said we do need to update this section. However, the Bypass areas will experience growth around the Koury Corp. property. Business will grow. We need to make Jamestown Business District look and feel different from the Bypass area. Capes said regarding community involvement, use Facebook, website, post on water bills, and in the newspaper to draw more involvement & engagement. Johnson will investigate creating a comment site on the webpage for open ended comments from the public.

Miller asked to wait on sending out anything to the community at this time. First, he would like the Planning Board to discuss and arrive at a consensus of what the Planning Board feels is the vision of Jamestown for 2020 & prioritize. Then, involve the public for input. Johnson said he will let the Council know that the Planning Board will be updating this plan. We will get Council input as well.

Glanville feels the demographics of her neighborhood are changing with some younger people moving in. Younger people may get their news in a different way than the older generation. The Town will try to do a large campaign to get the word to all the community. (Other ways to get the word out; reverse call system, text mail, emails, door to door invitation and newsletter)

Kerry Miller made a motion to move the next meeting date to November 13, 2012 at 6:30 pm due to the Veterans Day holiday. John Capes made a second to the motion. The PB members voted unanimously to change the meeting date. If you cannot attend that meeting, please email your comments regarding the review of the 2020 LDP Section 3 and the Appendix to Matthew Johnson or Kerry Miller.

Johnson said an informal group is meeting regarding the Downtown Business District. He would like to distinguish the Jamestown Business District from other business areas. Sarah Glanville asked about JBA doing a Main Street Festival. Wolfe said JBA did sponsor the Jamestown Day festival for several years. However, the last couple of years only 4 or 5 people volunteered to work on it. It became difficult to put on the event

with such poor volunteer participation. Wolfe said she would be glad to work on it again, if the volunteers were willing to help.

Lynn Montgomery said JBA is holding the second "Christmas on Main" December 5th, 2012. They hope to increase the event this year. The event will be located on E. Main Street and W. Main Street in hopes of bringing the public to visit businesses on each end of Town.

Art Wise asked about the long term situation with the Village View apartments not receiving their funding. Johnson said it is a very competitive process. He hasn't spoken with the developer but he assumes they will reapply for the funding next year. Johnson does not think Beacon Management purchased the property. He thinks the sale was contingent upon the financing. Art Wise asked with this being the situation, is there any chance that a parking lot would be built behind the Post Office. Johnson stated that the Town does not own the property. Wise said that parking is still a problem especially on the weekends. Wise asked about enforcing the no parking. Wolfe said the Council just approved the Town collecting fines for parking citations. She is working on updating the tickets for the deputy to give to violators. This should be completed very soon. Art Wise commented that the painted parking spaces on Ragsdale Rd. are working very well on the weekends.

Kerry Miller asked if something could be done to enforce the no parking at the crosswalks on E. Fork Rd. at the greenway. Johnson said the Town does not have jurisdiction in this area. The Town Manager and the Public Services Director have made several contacts with NCDOT regarding this situation, but to no avail. Johnson will relay this issue to the Town Manager again. Kerry Miller feels an official letter should be written to NCDOT regarding the situation.

Under other business, Martha Wolfe announced that the Town will hold its first Jamestown Veterans Ceremony at 2:00 pm on November 11, 2012 at the Town Hall on the front lawn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.