



Kershaw County Planning and Zoning Commission
Regular Session Minutes
June 11, 2012, 5:30 p.m.
County Council Chambers, 515 Walnut Street
Camden, SC 29020

Members in Attendance: Lewis Shaw, Charles Cottingham, Jetter Pittman, and Henry Walker

Members Absent: David Brown, George Gibson, and Dan Matthews

Staff in Attendance: Carolyn Hammond and John Newman

Call to Order

Chairman, Lewis Shaw, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Public Comment Period

There were no comments from the public.

Priority Investment Element Presentation: Amy Schofield, Kershaw County Library

Amy Schofield explained why we need libraries and why we need a new library building. She said the Internet has shifted the main role of libraries from places to house collections to active spaces where trained professionals assist with a variety of services ranging from homework assistance and research to literacy programs for all ages. Libraries not only provide space for reading, reflection, and study, but also for community meetings, small business office work, interviews, tutoring, socializing, and Wi-Fi access. Because of increased usage, expanded facilities are critically needed in both the Camden and Elgin areas. Recognizing that the greatest need for additional facilities is in the West Wateree area, the Library Board of Trustees voted in 2009 to recommend that a new library be constructed in Elgin if funds became available. A new Elgin facility was included on the November 2010 ballot as part of a Capital Sales Tax initiative which failed. Still recognizing the need for additional facilities west of the Wateree, the Board recently reassessed its library needs based on an eight-mile radius service area using 2010 Census data. They unanimously recommended that, in light of service area size, population concentration, and location of support services, their first priority is to invest in a new library in Camden that will be of sufficient size to adequately serve the needs of the County.

Approval of Minutes

Jetter Pittman motioned that the minutes of the May 14, 2012 regular meeting be approved. Charles Cottingham seconded, and all voted in favor.

Five-Year Update of the Comprehensive Plan

John Newman discussed the Foreword to the Comprehensive Plan update and explained the reason for the five-year review. When discussing the Population Element, he noted that data is now being reported by planning area instead of census county division. Under the Cultural Resources Element, he mentioned that the equine park is now a reality and that the Battle of Camden site was currently being vetted for National Park status. An overlay district for the area around the site was discussed. The educational resources section of the Cultural



Resources Element gives an update of completed and planned capital projects at schools throughout the county. An update was given of the recently completed recreation update study. The Commission gave preliminary approval to the drafts submitted to date.

Staff continues collecting information and working on the five-year update. Reports from Economic Development, Public Works, and Correctional Facilities are among those yet to be received. A timeline was discussed with a tentative public hearing goal of August or September with hopes that the Planning Commission will complete its work on the update and it will be passed by County Council by the end of the year.

Staff Report on County Council Actions Concerning the Planning Commission

John Newman reported that County Council unanimously passed final reading of the ZLDR's vendor and enforcement amendments on May 22, 2012.

Adjournment

At 6:20 p.m., the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Henry Walker, seconded by Jetter Pittman, and all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn B. Hammond

Carolyn B. Hammond
Secretary