

TOWN OF GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
September 13, 2016
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chairman Caldwell called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Attendance: Willie Alexander, Dick Bratton, Eric Caldwell, Don Ellis, Mary Lang, Mayor Jane Newberry (Ex Officio) .

2. AGENDA- Commissioner Alexander asked that a discussion of camping in Town be added as item 5 c.

M/S Alexander/Caldwell to approve agenda as amended. Passed 5-0

3. Approve Minutes of Aug 23 2016

M/S Caldwell/Ellis- To approve the minutes. Passed 5-0.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Ann Esch- Expressed gratitude for the prompt response to the 911 call concerning her husband's emergency.

Mike Lohman, representing the Chamber, asked about standards for backlit signage. The Chamber is studying the possibility of two message boards to inform citizens of events coming up. He asked about backlit signs. He was referred to Zoning Code, Chapter 16, Article IV, Signs.

5. NEW BUSINESS-

a. Vacation Rental- 10693 Illinois-John Bell. A Special Use Permit Application was received and permit fee paid. House Rules need to be submitted. A Public Hearing was set for Oct 11.

b. Deck rebuild-6826/6830 Park Ave- Mac Pitrone- Construction drawings were reviewed and approved for submittal to Regional Building Department.

c. Camping in Town. Commissioner Alexander proposed that camping be allowed along the Catamount Trail in the Garden of Eden. Camping is currently prohibited within Town Limits. (Chapter 2, Article IV, Sec 11-100). After discussion it was concluded that camping in the Garden of Eden was not a good idea due to the danger of campfires starting a forest fire and litter.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Update Comprehensive Plan- It was decided that the first step should be for all PC members and Board of Trustees members to read through the Plan to see what revisions are really needed. Suggested changes should be listed and submitted to the PC for consideration at the next PC meeting on Sep 27. The Plan is currently on the Town web site without maps. Commissioner Caldwell volunteered to scan the maps and add them to the website.

b. Meyers request to purchase Colorado Street Right of Way-

Robin Meyers, 6816 Colorado Street, submitted a letter asking how to go about purchasing the Colorado Street Right of Way (ROW) from the end of the current road to Boulder Street.

Planning Commissioners visited the site and noted an existing hiking trail on the ROW. The trail is important. It was constructed to eliminate trespass across private property by Colorado Street neighbors and other Town residents to reach Boulder Street on the way to Crystal Falls and to access several hiking trails at the top of Boulder Street.

Although it may be impractical in the future to extend Colorado Street eastward to Boulder Street for vehicular use because of the terrain, there is a continuing need to preserve the ROW for public pedestrian use.

The Planning Commission found that the Town needs to keep the Right Of Way for public use and not sell it.

M/S Bratton/Caldwell- To recommend to the Board of Trustees that the Town not sell the Colorado Street ROW requested by Mr. Meyers.

c. Review of Upper Fountain Creek Flood Restoration Master Plan.

Tabled to next meeting.

d. Short Term Rental Ordinance/Application

Tabled until Town Attorney finishes his review.

e. Review and update the GMF Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

M/S Alexander/Caldwell- To add " & Community Events Board" to the 2016 line item "Town Hall -Monumental Sign". Passed 5-0

Commissioner Ellis suggested that a PC member be assigned to each 2016 line item to set a priority and follow up on funding. Commissioner Alexander suggested the PC prioritize the line items for 2016 at the next meeting.

The Mayor asked that CIP information be sent to the Budget Committee.

7. CORRESPONDENCE-

a. Laura Morgan- Signage and Drainage

Her letter suggesting signs at the Olathe Street parking area marking it as a designated Mount Dewey Trail Parking. The PC agreed.

She also suggested the Catamount Street drainage ditches be made safer. The PC decided to refer her letter to DPW.

b. Catamount Creek/Fence Issue-Carolyn Bowers

The PC investigated the fence situation in June 2015. The June 9, 2015 PC Minutes include recommendations for Board action. The Mayor will follow up.

c. Audry Anderson- Questions on building in GMF

There was not enough information in her hand written note to formulate answers. She will be invited to attend a future PC meeting to present her concerns.

8. OTHER- PC Secretary

Commissioner Bratton resigned as PC Recording Secretary because of other commitments.

Sec 2-229 states " The Planning Commission shall elect a secretary".

M/S Bratton/Alexander- To elect Renee Price as PC Secretary.

Passed 5-0

9. ADJOURNED 8:42 PM

Eric Caldwell, Chairman

ATTEST _____
Richard Bratton, Recording Secretary