



**Radford Planning Commission
Monday, August 21, 2023
Municipal Building**

Members Present: Mr. Castleberry
Mr. Collier, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Gillespie
Mr. Gropman
Dr. Pearce
Mr. Watson, Chairperson

Absent: Mr. Cosmato

Staff/Visitors: Melissa Skelton, City Staff
Aphi Fancon, NRVRC

Mr. Watson called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm in the Radford City Council Chambers at 10 Robertson Street, Radford Virginia. A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Gillespie made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Castleberry.

Voting Yes: Mr. Castleberry, Mr. Collier, Mr. Watson, Mr. Gillespie, Mr. Gropman, Dr. Pearce

Approval of Minutes for May 15, 2023:

Minutes were recommended for approval as submitted by Mr. Collier, seconded by Mr. Castleberry.

Voting Yes: Mr. Castleberry, Mr. Collier, Mr. Watson, Mr. Gillespie

Voting No: None

Abstain: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Pearce

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments were provided.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Nominating Committee

SUMMARY: A nominating committee is required to appoint candidates for officers. Mr. Castleberry and Mr. Cosmato agreed to sit on the operating committee and make recommendation to the Planning Commissioners at their next meeting.

ACTION: Since Mr. Cosmato was not present, the nominating committee report was deferred to the next meeting.

WORK SESSION

1. Zoning Ordinance Update: Aphi Fancon, New River Valley Regional Commission

Discussion

We discussed the amount of time political signs should be allowed to be displayed. Montgomery County has had signs out since spring for its November election. Mr. Gillespie suggested that we do not want to allow signs for this length of time.

Limits to length and number of times a person may display temporary signs – commissioners agreed that it is desirable to have a limit. Ms. Fancon suggested no more than 30 days at a time, no more than three times per year.

We reviewed the survey. Ms. Fancon would like to get the survey live by October 1. She agreed to send a draft for comment by the first week in September, and Emma will set it up in Google Docs for us to review concurrently. We can discuss the latest versions of documents in our September meeting the third week, September 18. There will be no meeting on Labor Day.

STAFF REPORT – Ms. Skelton is working on the Transit strategic plan. There is a stakeholder meeting with which the planning commission should be involved on Monday, September 25, 1 pm. Radford will be transitioning back to a rural entity, which will reduce the number of entities to deal with. This is due to the changing population reflected in the 2020 Census.

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Castleberry – Excited by progress on homestay ordinance

Mr. Collier – No Comment

Mr. Cosmato- Absent

Mr. Gillespie – Nice job, Aphi, and congratulations, Emma!

Mr. Gropman – No Comment

Dr. Pearce – Congratulations to Emma for winning the Virginia Tech Outstanding Planning Student Award at the American Planning Association Conference last month!

Mr. Watson - No Comment

A motion was made by Mr. Gillespie to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm, seconded by Mr. Collier.

Voting Yes: Mr. Castleberry, Mr. Collier, Mr. Watson, Mr. Gillespie, Mr. Gropman, Dr. Pearce

Voting No: None

Abstain: None

Submitted by: Dr. Annie Pearce

Date: August 21, 2023