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**Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB)**

**Minutes**

Thurs. February 15, 2018, 6:00pm

City Hall Conf. Rm. 337

200 West Fifth Street

Greenville, NC 27835-7207

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BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATE members PRESENT:

Attendance is denoted by an “\*” and absentees are denoted by an “x”

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| **NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS** | | | | |
| **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |  | **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |
| Carolyn Glast - \* | 1 |  | Charlotte Smith - x | 1 |
| Betty Hines - x | 2 |  | Joyce Williams - x | 2 |
| Ann Maxwell, Chair - \* | 3 |  | Ann Hamze - \* | 3 |
| Blythe Tennent - \* | 4 |  | Judy Bernhardt-Vice Chair x | 4 |
| Sharon Stang - \* | 5 |  | Brenda Diggs - x | 5 |
| **NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD ALTERNATE MEMBERS** | | | | |
| **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |  | **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |
| Margaret Hrushesky - x | 1 |  | Jim Brown - x | 4 |
| David Douglas - \* | 2 |  | Vacant | 5 |
| Vacant | 3 |  |  |  |

David Douglas sat in for Betty Hines.

City Staff Present: *Community Development Department*: Christi Williamson.

**CALL TO ORDER –** Ann Maxwell

1. **ROLL CALL –** Christi Williamson
2. **Motion to Approve the Agenda**

Motion: Sharon Stang Second: Ann Hamze

Motion approved

1. **Motion to Approve the January 18, 2018 Minutes**

Motion: Blythe Tennent Second: Carolyn Glast

Motion approved

1. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Limit 3 minutes each**

* Three (3) minutes allotted per speaker
* Fifteen (15) minutes allotted for the public comment period

No public Comments.

1. **OLD BUSINESS**
2. **Report on Christmas Parade:** Ann Maxwell

Ann would like a discussion on the Christmas Parade. Ann asked if the group wants to do it again next year and how they felt about it. Sharon Stang said that it was great and she had a good time. Ann Hamze enjoyed it. Everyone wanted to thank Jim Brown who worked so hard to organize the music and get the pontoon boat from Greenville Marine. Ann Maxwell paid for the lights and they can be used again in the future. Ann wants to know if there is a certificate that we can have made for Greenville Marine. Hopefully we will be able to get a pontoon boat again next year. Christi Williamson said that she can make up a certificate of appreciation. Ann said it would be nice to have it framed and presented to them. Carolyn Glast said that the boat was a luxury. Ann said that the only problem was that the sound from the music was not projected. Next year we may need to get a Bluetooth exterior speaker so that the audience can hear the music. Ann Maxwell feels like everything we do together is a bonding experience. Ann said she and Betty were talking about how this board is more on a heart level. Ann said that she will keep building the relationship with Greenville Marine. She thinks that we may want to request the boat earlier this year.

1. **Follow up Discussion on the 500 foot Ordinance for Nightclubs:** Reports from Board members.

Sharon Stang said that she emailed her councilman and represented herself as a private citizen. She sent it to Litchfield and he has not responded. Carolyn Glast talked to Mayor Pro Tempore Glover about being concerned about all neighborhoods. She said that Mayor Pro Tempore Glover did not want to change the distance. Ann Maxwell said we don’t know if it will even come back up. Ann Hamze has several people from her Neighborhood Association that contacted Will Bell. Councilman Bell responded that he didn’t think it would come up again and if it did that he would not be in favor or changing it. Blythe Tennant emailed Councilman Smiley but he has not responded. Ann Maxwell said that he will most likely be in support of no change. Ann would like to commend the group for taking time to contact their Council members. Judy Bernhardt relayed to Ann Maxwell that she emailed Councilman Smiley and he said that he would not recommend changing it.

TRUNA has a nightclub (Anchorz) that recently opened on Jarvis Street in the old Dr. Unks building. The only reason it is there is because it was grandfathered. The owner kept up the permits in order to keep it as a night club. The neighborhood will have to keep calling and making complaints about the noise and other activity that the club is bringing to the neighborhood.

Blythe Tennant wants to know about fast food places in relation to neighborhoods. Ann Maxwell said that there is a buffer requirement and the requirements for distance in the ordinance can be obtained by someone in the Community Development Department.

1. **Report on 2018 NAB Presentation to Council:** Ann Maxwell

Ann thanked everyone for showing up to the City Council Meeting. She said that there was a great representation from the Neighborhood Advisory Board. We need to remind each other to take pictures all during the year so that we have documentation of meetings and events.

David Douglas complimented Councilwoman Smith for voicing her opinion in support of the neighborhoods. He hopes that the other officials will follow suit. The neighborhoods are the heart of the City**.**

Christi Williamson talked about the West Greenville Town Hall meeting that she attended. Carolyn Glast with NAB District 1 also attended and sat at the NAB information table. Senator Don Davis attended as well as many leaders in the area. Mr. Jermain McNair who is with NC Civil was the speaker. He spoke about the collaboration between West Greenville and Vidant to hire local citizens.

1. **NEW BUSINESS:**
2. **Follow up Discussion About Presentation From Daryl Norris and Chantae Gooby**

Ann Maxwell wants to be able to process these two presentations. Ann Hamze said that she learned that those in charge of the culvert project have already started informing the public and wants to know if our work plan duplicates what the City is doing. Ann Maxwell, Betty Hines and Brenda Diggs stated a desire to have a NAB member on the Education Committee at Public Works. Daryl Norris said that the education committee hasn’t been set up yet. He said that the storm water task force is already meeting to discuss prioritization. Ann Hamze said that she thinks that citizens need to utilize the web more to educate themselves about all that the City does. Blythe Tennent said that she thinks that the City is doing a lot in reference to storm water and has started a lot of initiatives. She said, “If you watch the City Council meetings you will see that Rick Smiley does a good job of asking questions in reference to zoning and flood water”. Responses to Mr. Smiley’s questions seem to indicate that there is a need for more coordination between the Engineering and Planning Departments according to Maxwell.

Ann Maxwell talked about how the Superior Court Judge overturned the City’s denial of the student housing project on Charles near Bells Fork. The new student housing development will be built above the Meeting House Branch stream that flows down to the Brook Valley Neighborhood. During Hurricane Matthew, Highway 33 was washed out next to Brook Valley. When you take away all of that open land that soaks up water and add buildings and impervious surfaces, the other neighborhoods are impacted. Retention ponds do not help when we have rainfall levels of 100 year floods such as in Matthew. Ann said that the problems often arise after the completion of a project and neighborhoods are left with the problem.

Mr. Douglas wants to know what it would take to have a city council member attend our board meetings. Maybe once per quarter, so they get a feel of what goes on in the Neighborhood Advisory Board. Blythe said that we need to get the new council members to come to the meetings. Ann Maxwell said that we need to figure out when we want to invite them. Blythe said that the board members need to invite their district Council member. Ann Hamze stated that all other boards have a Council Liaison. Christi Williamson said that with all other boards the members are appointed by Council. Ann Maxwell said that when this board was formed the City wanted it to be grass roots. We are the only City Board that votes in its own members based on district.

**Adopt a Street Program**

Ann Maxwell said that that Adopt a Street will be discussed in our March meeting. Brenda Diggs is working on this and has appointments with city services. Brenda is doing research and will meet with Delbert Bryant. The Adopt a Street Program was one of our goals this year and at the first council meeting Mayor Connelly brought it up. The Mayor stated that he wanted to have a clean city. Ann said that Kevin Mulligan stated that the Adopt a Street Program had not been monitored and updated. The Mayor wants it to be reinstated so that we can have an active Adopt a Street Program.

Christi Williamson advised that the spring cleanup is April 14. All of the information will be sent out in the near future. It will coincide with the anniversary of the IGCC anniversary. Neighborhoods will still pick up supplies to clean their own neighborhoods. There will be garbage pick up from the 9th -13th. There will be a list of things that can be picked up and cannot be picked up. You will have to also call Public Works to get them to pick it up. Christi will bring the information to the next meeting.

1. **Committee Chair Reports**

Sharon Stang filling in for Carolyn Glast: Community Building.

The first goal was to finish the ‘welcome to the neighborhood’ gift bag. PIP Marketing will be making the bags. The City said that they should be ordered by Monday (2/19). Carolyn said that we will have to figure out what we want in the bags. The second goal is the city directory with all neighborhood associations listed. Christi Williamson has current contact information on 41 homeowners associations and 27 neighborhood associations. There were 49 neighborhoods left with no updated information. These were split between the three members of the committee. A script was provided by Christi and all of this information will go back to Christi to be updated in the directory. Ann Hamze said she may be able to help with the next door app if there are neighborhoods that the committee members cannot find contact information. Each of the three committee members received about sixteen files. There are some neighborhoods that do not have any information and some have several contacts. It will be up to the committee members to update and if they cannot find someone then it will be listed on the directory as no known contact. One of the other things that Christi will do is send an email to all of the HOA’s and ask if the management company would like to have a liaison for that neighborhood to the NAB. The city does not regulate HOA’s but they need to have a liaison to the NAB to apply for the neighborhood improvement grants. Christi said that there will be a booklet with all the neighborhood information to include the description of the neighborhood.

Brenda Diggs- City Services:

Brenda will talk about her report in the March meeting. Her concern for this year is litter.

Joyce Williams – Public Safety:

Ann Maxwell gave the report for Joyce. She spoke with Sgt. Dale Mills about the Community Watch Program. The goal is to compose a trifold brochure on how to start a community watch. Sgt. Mills said that there are very few neighborhoods that are doing traditional Community Watch. A large number of neighborhoods have moved to the Next Door app as a crime prevention tool. Sgt. Mills will be at our April Meeting. Ann Hamze said that you can request cards from Next Door to go out to the neighborhood. She said the only problem is that it isn’t regulated very well and anyone can draw the lines of the neighborhood. Once that happens, it makes it difficult to change those boundary lines. You have to show the Next Door administrator that it is correctly set. It would be nice if the neighborhoods already had boundaries made up by the city and then you can join or become a lead because the lines are already drawn. Christi said that the app is private and unfortunately the city doesn’t have the authority to interfere with their program. Christi said that the police department is trying to be a part of the Next Door program so that they can put out information city wide or to specific neighborhoods about issues that need to be addressed.

1. **Plans For Future Meetings to Address Work Goals**

Ann Maxwell said what we are moving right along on our Land Use goals. Our first objective was the speakers. We have had three speakers in three different months. Those speakers were Dr. Stan Riggs, Engineer Daryl Norris and Planner Chantae Gooby. We have also identified the areas in the Horizon plan that we want to focus on. Everyone was given a handout with the information pulled from the Horizon plan. Our second objective was to develop recommendations that the NAB would support to reduce flooding and support sustainability. This in an ongoing objective. Another part of that is to write a prepared recommendation to City Council. We are not ready to do that by February and need to move that date. The executive committee wants to move that to June. This will be one of the things we will vote on at the next meeting. Ann Maxwell would like everyone to read the excerpts from the horizon plan that were pulled. Pick the things that appeal to you as an individual then as a group we can decide what to recommend to City Council. Even if we don’t want to change an ordinance there is so much to recommend. Blythe Tennant wants to know if this is supposed to be completed by the committee. Ann Maxwell said that the committee will do the work but needs input from the entire board.

Ann Hamze said that we are going to see an increase in the storm water improvements. We don’t need to harp on things where the city already has future plans written. When we write a letter to City Council we need to compliment Council and staff on the great things that they are doing. Maybe a letter of support about the things that they are improving.

Ann Maxwell said that there is not enough money to fix all of the infrastructure. We need to educate ourselves and help educate the public. Storm water infrastructure is massive and the necessary repairs have not been addressed on an annual basis, so now we have and enormous challenge as a city. Unless the money is available, the city cannot address the entire system. Ann said that the horizon plan talks about concepts for new development standards. Do we want to recommend that the development standards be updated in compliance with the Horizon Plan suggestions? Are there things that can be done to decrease the flow of water into our storm water system? A tree ordinance could be helpful because trees help soak up water. According to Planner Chantae Gooby, our current tree ordinance only applies to 20 acre plots. There are also buffer requirements. In order to address any of these issues, we must look for common ground with the City Council members. Ann Maxwell stated that optimism is important.

The group had a question about who is on what committee. They are clear on the Community Building but not the others. Community Building committee: Carolyn Glast who is Chair, David Douglas, Sharon Stang and Betty Hines. The original meeting for the Land Use/City Service and Public Safety was Brenda Diggs, Joyce Williams, Sharon Stang, Judy Bernhardt, Mison Hur, Ann Maxwell, Ann Hamze and Betty Hines. Ann Maxwell is the Chair of Land Use. Brenda Diggs in the Chair of City Services and Joyce Williams is the Chair of Public Safety. These three committees were combined because they has such similar goals. Ann Maxwell and Brenda Diggs are co-chairing the whole committee. Blythe Tennant said that she will work with Joyce Williams on the Public Safety Committee. Ann said that we need to change some of the completion dates but each Chair will have to come up with dates and we will have to vote on that at the next NAB meeting in March.

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

No announcements.

1. **ADJOURN**

**Motion to Adjourn**

Motion: Sharon Stang Second: David Douglas

Motion Passed

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Christi Williamson, Neighborhood Liaison