

**Taneytown Planning Commission
Minutes
October 30, 2017**

The Taneytown Planning Commission met on, October 30, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the City Council Chambers. Chairman Parker and commission members, Glass, Wantz, and Naylor were present. City Attorney Gullo, County liaison Moser, and planning director Wieprecht were also in attendance.

County liaison Moser introduced the new County Planning liaison, Clare Stewart. Chairman Parker and Commission members thanked Ms. Moser for her assistance following the departure of the City's former planning liaison, and welcomed Ms. Stewart.

The minutes of the September 25, 2017 Planning Commission meeting were unanimously approved on motion by Commission member Wantz.

Planning director Wieprecht introduced a concept sign rendering for an electronic message display board (EMDB) for the Taneytown Elementary School site. Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) representatives James Marks, Supervisor of Construction, Christie Farver, principal of Taneytown Elementary, Dave Watkins Principal of Northwest Middle School, and Ray Nowicki of the CCPS Purchasing department provided an overview and answered questions about proposed the sign. Prior to finalizing specifications and seeking funding for such a sign, the CCPS delegation requested some direction from the Commission as to installation of an EMDB at the site. Commission members provided consensus for the schools' concept to move forward with the EMDB bulletin board sign.

Attorney Gullo summarized pending ordinances 13-2017 and 14-2017 which, if adopted will restore a requirement for the Planning Commission to have opportunity to comment on pending board of appeals cases for both special exceptions and variances. Commission member Naylor moved to recommend that the Mayor and Council move forward on adopting the ordinances. The motion passed with 3 votes and Commission member Wantz abstaining as he will be voting on the matter as a Council member.

Planning director Wieprecht reviewed his monthly report to the Commission. Commission members questioning the dumpster location noted on as built plans for 5300 Taneytown Pike; as originally the dumpster was planned to be within the building. Planning director Wieprecht is to contact the developer regarding the dumpster.

Attorney Gullo updated the Commission on small cellular infrastructure, advising that the Maryland Municipal League has prioritized a legislative action request on the matter for the upcoming State legislative session, reviewing the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) stance on the infrastructure and local efforts to address this new technological demand. Attorney Gullo advised that ordinances enabling the Planning Commission to have a role the development of small cellular infrastructure will be introduced to the Mayor and Council in November.

County liaison Moser shared information on typical walking distances and speed as a follow-up to last month's discussion on parking and walking distances regarding siting parking facilities for the City's Downtown Business District.

Commission members reviewed the draft comprehensive plan chapter on Historic and Cultural Resources, suggesting several revisions and corrections to the draft. Planning director Wieprecht is to make revisions as suggested.

The next commission meeting is scheduled for November 27, 2017. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 following motion by commission member Glass.

Submitted by:

Jim Wieprecht
Director of Planning and Zoning