

**Taneytown Planning Commission
Minutes
February 25, 2019**

The Taneytown Planning Commission met on February 25, 2019 at 7:30 PM in the City Council Chambers. Chairman Parker and commission members, Glass, Hale, Wantz and Naylor were present. City attorney Gullo, County Planning liaison Stewart, and planning director Wieprecht were also in attendance.

Minutes from the January 28, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved following motion by Commission member Naylor.

Planning Director Wieprecht reviewed the City's plan to install a gazebo at Memorial Park, advising that the project would require few if any of the standard site development plan reviews, and of the City's wish to avoid the expense and time needed to go through the process for few reviews or applicable comments. Discussion was held, with some Commission members expressing concern regarding the proposed location, as it is close to a ball field and not particularly visible from the main drives through the park. Commission members also inquired about the intended use of the gazebo. Planning director Wieprecht advised that the location could be fine-tuned during a site visit to ensure play and maintenance at the field would not be compromised, and that the general location was planned to put the gazebo in the midst of activity when City sponsored events are held at the park. While some concerns remained, the Commission granted the waiver of site plan requirements unanimously following motion by Commission member Hale.

Planning Director Wieprecht reviewed other items from his monthly report including a recent appeal of the Board of Appeals (BZA) decision regarding a special exception for a liquor store to operate as 226 East Baltimore Street. Planning Director Wieprecht also reviewed ongoing development projects with the Commission.

City attorney Gullo reviewed progress on the City's Small Cell ordinance which will be introduced to the Mayor and Council at their March meeting. Attorney Gullo advised that there is limited opportunity for local governments to regulate small cell, also known as 5G infrastructure, with the Federal government, specifically the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) allowing only modest ability for local regulation. The Maryland legislature currently has competing bills from the industry and local governments, but at this point, which if any legislation may pass is unknown. Attorney Gullo provided some detail on the City's need to address the appeal of the BZA decision and implications of the appeal.

County Planning liaison Stewart advised the Commission that the Water and Sewer Master Plan was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and that it has been sent to the Maryland Department of the Environment for consideration. Ms. Stewart also advised that the Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan will go before the Planning Commission in April/May for acceptance.

Chairman Parker opened the floor to questions and comments. Josh Morningstar of Fringer Road inquired about progress on the Bollinger Park site development plan. Planning director Wieprecht responded that the preliminary plan for the site was being developed but was not yet ready for presentation to the Commission.

The next meeting will be held on March 25, 2019. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM on motion by Commission Member Wantz.

Submitted by:

Jim Wieprecht
Director of Planning and Zoning