

City of Decorah
Planning and Zoning Commission
April 8, 2013 – 7:00pm

Meeting Minutes

Members present included: Barbara Massman, Donna Rae Ibanez, Ross Hadley, Benji Nichols, Stan Moellers, and Lynne Sootheran. Absent: Brian Cook.

Approval of the March 11, 2013 meeting minutes

Motion by Hadley and seconded by Moellers to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2103 meeting. Unanimous, motion passed.

Discussion and possible action on Final Plat – Apple Blossom Estates

Bird noted that the items the Commission asked to be noted on the plat were on the plat. The Commission reviewed several aspects of the plat including easements and lot layout.

Motion by Hadley and seconded by Sootheran to approve the final plat and recommend the City Council approval. Unanimous, motion passed.

Discussion and possible action on a zoning amendment for C-2 General Retail and Service Commercial District

Bird noted that he had received a request to consider interpretation of the C-2 district to include trailers as part of automotive sales. Bird told the Commission that in his opinion, trailers were not included in definitions or permitted uses in the C-2. He based his opinion on the differences in uses between C-1 and C-2.

The Commission affirmed Bird's interpretation. The Commission indicated they may be interested in looking at some alternate language for C-2 to address the request made by Don Rude of Don's Sales and Service. Mr. Rude addressed the Commission and noted that he really wanted to be able to take various trailers in on trade and Iowa DOT requirements led to his request.

Bird said he would research DOT requirements and bring some possible language back to the Commission.

Discussion regarding temporary signs in the C-3 District

Bird reviewed the City of La Crosse's sign language and noted that it is voluminous. The Commission engaged in general discussion about temporary sign language. It was believed that language which permits temporary / portable signs in the downtown area (C-3) could be allowed with minimal but clarifying language to the existing code. The Commission instructed Bird to bring such language back for further discussion.

Other Business

Bird provided the Commission an update on the Traditions project.
There was no other business.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chad A. Bird
City Manager
Zoning Administrator