

City of Decorah
Planning and Zoning Commission
September 12, 2016 – 7:00pm

Meeting Minutes

Members present included: Benji Nichols, Nathan Thompson, Brian Cook and Llew Jenkins. Absent: Barbara Massman, Jarrad Walter, Stan Moellers.

Others present: Zoning Administrator / City Manager Chad Bird.

Consider approval of minutes from the July 11, 2016 regular meeting

Motion by Cook and seconded by Thompson to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2016 regular meeting.

Roll call vote: Unanimous, motion passed.

Consider final plat of Casper Subdivision

Bird reviewed this as a rural subdivision in the two mile review area. He noted that given it is a single lot subdivision from the primary parcel, staff recommends waiving the review process. He further explained that if this type of plat subdivision were in the city limits approval would be granted at the administrative level. There was general discussion about the location of the plat.

Motion by Cook and seconded by Jenkins to recommend approval of the subdivision to the city council.

Roll call vote: Unanimous, motion passed.

Consider C-3 Commercial Design Review re: 306 West Water Street; Driftless Smoothie and Juice Bar

Bird noted the applicant is proposing a juice bar at this location. Elida Rowley was present to review her application and noted because the business will only be accessible to the public from the rear entrance (alley behind Blue Heron), she would like to place the signs noted in the C-3 application. There was a brief review of the application and sign measurements.

Motion by Nichols and seconded by Jenkins to recommend approval of the C-3 Design application for 306 West Water Street to the city council.

Roll call vote: Unanimous, motion passed.

Discussion on review and update of city's 2012 comprehensive plan

Nichols introduced the comp plan review and there was general discussion regarding some of the background on this particular version. The commission agreed to review chapter one and there was also discussion about updating some of the technical and demographic data.

Discussion on community school siting options and locations

Nichols discussed the school location issue and engaged the commission in discussion about general community planning. He asked if there is a way the commission could engage the council and the community in continuing the discussion regarding a new school building location.

Bird and City council member Steve Luse shared some of the background behind the council's action on the proposed siting of the school on the Heivly Street property.

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There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chad A. Bird".

Chad A. Bird
City Manager
Zoning Administrator