

**PARTIAL MINUTES FOR THE  
MEETING OF THE  
GREENSBORO PLANNING BOARD  
November 19, 2014**

The Greensboro Planning Board meeting was held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 2:05 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, 2nd floor of the Melvin Municipal Office Building. Board members present were: Chuck Truby, Chairman; Marc Isaacson; Steve Allen, Richard Mossman, Seth Steele, Day Atkins, Richard Bryson and Celia Parker. City staff present included Mike Kirkman, Nicole Ward, and Sheila Stains-Ramp. Also present was Jennifer Schneier the Attorney for the Planning Board, Tom Carruthers from the Legal Department, and Virginia Spillman from Water Resources.

Chairman Truby welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the procedures of the Planning Board.

**ITEMS FROM CITY ATTORNEY**  
**PRESENTATION OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO ENTERTAINMENT USE**  
**STANDARDS 30-8-13.**

Counsel Carruthers stated that the Entertainment Facility Use Ordinance was placed in Chapter 30 a few years ago when it was first adopted. Council is now looking at revisions to this Ordinance in light of recent events in the downtown area that have caused concerns. This is an opportune time for Council to review it because there have been other cases going before the Board of Adjustment with the earlier version of the Ordinance and there is now perspective on how to improve it and streamline the process.

Council decided at their last meeting to place the Entertainment Ordinance Revisions on the next Council meeting and hold a public hearing. As a result, there is no action to be taken by the Planning Board. This is for informational purposes at this time.

The City clearly has enabling legislation under state law to regulate bars and nightclubs, per 160(A) 181. There are 47 bar/club and lounge establishments in the City that would fall within this classification as well as 13 sexually oriented businesses. The way the Ordinance is currently drafted, civic clubs and rental spaces could be within the oversight of the Ordinance as well. Staff will be looking at proposed modifications and discussing that with Council. Council has recommended, at this point, that there be a mandatory compliance with the Greensboro Police Department Security Manual, which means that clubs will no longer be permitted to have “bouncers”, who assume the duties of security to regulate crowd control. Instead, Chapter 74(c) of the NC General Statutes has specific training requirements for unarmed security guards and it looks like all clubs are going to need to upgrade their security to trained personnel. Separate from that, all clubs with occupancy for 100 or more persons shall also have to have an even higher standard, for two uniformed armed officers, which could be either off-duty police officers or “armed security guards” under 74(c). The thought is that these clubs should have armed uniformed personnel, on-premise and visible, in order to deter violence, and if violence does

occur, in order to respond as fast as possible. There have been clubs opening up that provide entertainment from 2 am to 6 am, which brings other problems even though no alcohol can legally be served at 2 am. The negative side is there has been a lot of violence at these establishments. On the other hand, there is concern about clubs that have been in business for 20+ years and have never had an act of violence. Staff is looking into this matter to find some modifications to address these concerns. This process will go on and Council will address this matter at their December 2nd meeting. Any comments and suggestion of the Board members would be appreciated.

**APPROVAL OF ABSENCES:**

Chair Truby acknowledged that the absence of Mr. Martin is approved.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Schwartz  
Planning and Community Development, Director  
SSR/SWG