

**MEETING OF THE
GREENSBORO PLANNING BOARD
July 15, 2015**

The Greensboro Planning Board meeting was held on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, 2nd floor of the Melvin Municipal Office Building. Board members present were: Chuck Truby, Chairman; Day Atkins, Richard Bryson, Mark Isaacson, Steve Allen, John Martin, Seth Steele and Richard Mossman. City staff present included Steve Galanti, and Sheila Stains-Ramp. Also present was Jennifer Schneier, City Attorney's Office.

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

1. MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. Martin moved approval of the June 17, 2015 meeting minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Bryson. The Board voted unanimously, 8-0, in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Truby, Isaacson, Mossman, Bryson, Steele, Martin, Akins and Allen. Nays: None.)

2. PUBLIC HEARING:

USDA Fresh Food Retail Access Plan (RECOMMENDED)

Russ Clegg, Planning Department, presented an overview of the plan to improve food access in the City's food deserts. The Board is asked for a recommendation to City Council to consider adoption of the plan in August. The plan received funding from the USDA's Local Food Promotion Program. The goals of the plan are to increase retail access to fresh local food and support local food business enterprises.

The strategies were vetted at a well attended public meeting held last month. Strategies include the following: (1) Create a campaign to introduce people to those currently growing produce as a way of marketing the producers, (2) Offer market research to new or existing farmers, (3) Implementation of a local food entrepreneurship program, (4) Establishing a food hub, (5) Establishing a commercial kitchen to create more demand, (6) Build and sustain a relationship between growers and institutions, (7) Create a fresh food incentive program to support store owners to sell more fresh produce, (8) Retail gap research, and (9) Implement an education campaign. The plan will be presented to the Parks & Recreation Commission and to City Council in August. The plan must be submitted to USDA in September. Comments on the Plan will be received until August 7th.

Chair Truby asked if there was anyone from the public that wished to speak on this matter.

Dr. Adrienne Sabir, 1206 Eton Drive, stated that she is part of the steering committee in discussions on this plan. A very diverse group was involved in the steering committee

and have had very good communications during the public meetings. She hopes that the Board will recommend this plan to City Council.

There being no other speakers, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Martin moved to recommend the Fresh Foods Plan as described by staff to City Council for their consideration and approval, seconded by Mr. Bryson. The Board voted unanimously, 8-0, in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Truby, Isaacson, Mossman, Bryson, Steele, Martin, Akins and Allen. Nays: None.)

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR AUG 2015 – JULY 2016

Chair Truby thanked the Board members and staff for supporting him over the last six years on the Board. He also thanked staff for all the hard work they do in preparation of matters coming to the Planning Board.

Mr. Martin nominated Mr. Isaacson to serve as Chair of the Planning Board, Mr. Isaacson accepted the nomination and the Board members voted unanimously for Mr. Isaacson's election. The Board voted unanimously, 8-0, in favor of the motion. (Ayes: Truby, Isaacson, Mossman, Bryson, Steele, Martin, Akins and Allen. Nays: None.)

Mr. Allen volunteered to serve as Vice Chair and there were no other nominations. The Board members voted unanimously, 8-0, for Mr. Allen to serve as Vice Chair of the Board. (Ayes: Truby, Isaacson, Mossman, Bryson, Steele, Martin, Akins and Allen. Nays: None.)

4. ITEMS FROM THE DEPARTMENT:

a. Heritage Community Program

Hanna Cockburn stated that the City Council established a new program to recognize a neighborhood or area that played an important note in Greensboro's history as a Heritage Community. Historic significance may not be apparent today because of physical changes that have occurred over time. The purpose of Heritage Community recognition is commemorative and educational. It is acknowledged that the community is historically and/or culturally significant but is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or local Historic District designation. This program has no effect on property rights, zoning or taxation. There are no regulations and it does not take the place of other forms of recognition such as listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Heritage Communities will have general rather than exact boundaries, e.g., "the are generally south of Lee Street, west of south Elm-Eugene Street, north of Florida Street and east of Freeman Mill Road". A printout of the criteria for consideration and application information was provided to Board members.

ITEMS FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

Chair Isaacson stated that he had no items at this time. He thanked his fellow Board members for the opportunity to serve as Chair and would try and uphold the confidence placed in him.

**SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR ON ITEMS UNDER PLANNING BOARD
AUTHORITY:**

None.

APPROVAL OF ABSENCES:

Chair Isaacson acknowledged that the absence of Ms. Parker is approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Schwartz, FAICP
Planning Director
SS/jd