

Jeannette Planning Commission | Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date January 2, 2019



Attendance:

- Alec Italiano, Chairman: present
- William Pacelli, Co-Chairman: present
- Joseph Carle: present
- Donald Deguffroy: present
- Jonathan Gibbon: absent
- Laura Smith: present
- Judy Soles: present

Call to Order: 5:34pm

Previous Meeting's Minutes: Motion to approve November 7th meeting minutes. Joe and Laura 2nd

Staff Report: N/A

Old Business:

Approved amendment to by laws regarding absenteeism, new rule is 5 absences in a 12 month period results in the Planning Commission taking applications to replace that member.

Ed Howley presented several recommendations for zoning amendments, the PC would like more time to review and understand what is on the books currently, what the changes are for each recommendation and the effect of each. He has a word document showing the current ordinance in 1 column and the proposed amendment for that ordinance in a corresponding column. So we can compare exactly the changes to be made. The PC has made a motion to table this issue for further study. Joe 1st, Don 2nd.

The PC is sending a thank you letter to council for the action taken on several recommendations we have made for the downtown business area. Also a follow-up letter on the areas that need addressed per the Comprehensive Plan.

Bill Fontana, PA Downtown Partnership, would like the JBA to take a leadership role with regards to a Downtown Manager. Mr, Fontana would like to meet with Diana Reitz and other members of the Community Initiative. Diana has approached Bill Pacelli of the PC, to oversee a group for the Initiative. The Initiative can get matching money for grants that are written for specific areas. Mr. Fontana could give us direction in applying for grants, time consuming, research and there are deadlines for the applications to be submitted. Alex was instrumental in getting the grant for the WCTA putting the bus stop at the Jeannette Community Garden on Clay Avenue, 3 years in the making,

Partner with real estate agents to have developers do walk throughs of the buildings that are available in the downtown area. Contact Ed Sam, President of the JBA, regarding developers he may know. Also schedule combined meetings with other groups in the city. Jeanette has been getting good press coverage from the Penn Trafford Newspaper, free coverage of our events.

Laura is going to speak with Jackie Sobol, the owner of Micro Brewery, Gillespie Building, regarding a space in the building for a glass museum. The museum would only need a small portion of a floor for display of the glassware. Determine a location 1st then schedule a meeting with the glassware owner. Tentative opening is the fall of 2019, new owners have a monumental task ahead of them for the renovation and cleanup of the building. Keep conversation going on the museum. The Antique Oddities building is being looked at by a furniture refinisher, Junk for Joy is currently occupied with a painter. Building next to Nancy's Grille is boarded up, owner in Laguna CA, just renting to tenants. Hopeful there may be a tenant for Mama G's. If a building is being used for the same purpose the zoning should be grandfathered, nothing should change, Offer incentives, our solicitor maybe coming around. Irwin recently made exceptions, with regard to a Land Bank deal, for the greater good.

PC present letter to council regarding the Jeannette Hospital property, see where it stands, if we can do anything to help. Mr, Tarosky has lost the option for the Monsour property, expired 12-31. Mr. Tarosky never purchased the property, put up a minimal amount. The property will be marketed again by the county to developers.

Next year the 400 block side walks will be done.

New Business:

Dates for 2019 PC meetings as follows: 2nd Monday of each month: February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, and December 9. Try to partner with other meetings and groups in the building. Change in our dates may give us a better opportunity to submit recommendations to council's work sessions, 2nd Tuesday of the month, regular meetings 2nd Thursday of the month. Alex submitting are new meeting dates to Cindy Booley. Also questioning Cindy about Jonathan Gibbons expiring term with PC.

Joe made motion to keep same officers, Don second the motions. Alex, chairman, Bill, vice chairman and Judy, secretary.

Bill suggested the PC send a thank you to Don Criner for the sign he made for the Planning Commission's car in the Sparkle of Christmas Parade, 11-28. Bill requested the sign in the morning and Don had it completed by that afternoon. We appreciate his efforts.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: 6:45