

1 Minutes of the Work Session of the Planning Commission of the County of
2 Henrico, Virginia, held in the Planning Department's Large Conference Room in
3 the Government Center at Parham and Hungary Spring Roads, beginning at 6:15
4 p.m., Thursday, August 9, 2007. This Work Session was held to discuss the
5 Planning Commission 2008 Calendar.

6
Members Present: Mr. Tommy Branin, Chairperson (Three Chopt)
Mr. E. Ray Jernigan, C.P.C., Vice Chairperson (Varina)
Mr. C. W. Archer, C.P.C. (Fairfield)
Mr. Ernest B. Vanarsdall, C.P.C. (Brookland)
Mrs. Bonnie-Leigh Jones (Tuckahoe)
Mr. Frank J. Thornton (Fairfield)
Board of Supervisors Representative
Mr. Randall R. Silber, Director of Planning, Secretary

Also Present: Mr. Ralph J. Emerson, Jr., AICP, Assistant Director of
Planning

7 **Mr. Frank J. Thornton, the Board of Supervisors' representative, abstains**
8 **on all cases unless otherwise noted.**

9
10 Mr. Branin - I'd like to bring the pre-meeting of this to order.

11
12 Mrs. Jones - May I say something?

13
14 Mr. Branin - Absolutely.

15
16 Mrs. Jones - On my motion, this work session was called and I
17 want to thank everyone for agreeing to it. Realizing this is not the most pressing
18 issue for the Planning Commission, I none-the-less wanted to have everybody's
19 input. That's why I asked for this on the calendar for several reasons, not the
20 least of which is that the reasons having been given to me in the past for having
21 11 meetings on one side and 12 on the other were for the convenience of the
22 Planning Commission in taking vacations, or because we had done this before
23 for several years. Neither of which, I felt were strong pressing reasons that I
24 could be comfortably with. So, I thought we should discuss it. I was hoping you
25 all would share your thoughts and I would like to share mine and because I
26 brought this thing up, I'll share with you what I'm thinking.

27
28 The business of the County goes on in many ways. It goes on whether we're
29 here, whether we're not. It goes on whether people have medical emergencies,
30 have to miss meetings or whatever. It continues on. I think we need to find a
31 schedule that suits the best needs of the County, as well as the needs of the
32 staff, certainly, and the needs of the Commission. I've talked to a number of
33 people. I have my own personal feelings about it and I'd like to share with you.

35 I think consistency makes a lot of sense for us and the Commission meetings,
36 one a month for the rezoning side, one a month for the POD side, seem to be a
37 logical progression of the business of the County. Skipping a POD meeting
38 might be justified, depending on the workload. However, if we skip a POD
39 meeting, I suggest that we might want to consider skipping a rezoning meeting.
40 If we feel that is not in the best interest of the County, then I suggest we consider
41 having 24 meetings a year and let the business of the County move forward on a
42 very structured schedule that everybody can count on. I feel we have those two
43 choices and that's my thought. That's why I asked for the meeting.

44

45 Mr. Branin - Thank you, Mrs. Jones.

46

47 Mr. Branin - Question. Can someone tell me why we take the POD
48 off?

49

50 Mr. Silber - I will give you my recollection of this. I think this goes
51 back to around 2000, 2001 when the Planning Commission considered removing
52 a meeting, I think because there was thought that they wanted to be able to
53 schedule vacations and find time to do that. So, they opted to cancel their
54 second meeting in August for the 2001 calendar, 2000 or 2001 calendar. This
55 has come up a couple of times since then and been debated and discussed and
56 they have kept it that way. I believe it's because, primarily, for vacation
57 purposes.

58

59 I'll also share with you that from staff perspective, we don't find it to be a break in
60 our work to not have that meeting. In fact, it creates somewhat of a logjam. It
61 creates more work for us and we don't feel like one side of the office has an
62 advantage and the other side has a disadvantage. Comp Planning handles the
63 rezoning side and doesn't see a need to miss a meeting. They have to do two
64 meetings a month anyway for rezoning. Planning Commission and the Rezoning
65 for the Board of Supervisors, they don't see a need to miss a meeting. I don't
66 think that the administration or the staff should be involved with consideration of
67 this from the standpoint. Don't try to look out for us; we're fine with 24 meetings.
68 We can handle the load and prefer to have 24 meetings. If you all prefer to stay
69 the course and not have your second meeting in August, we'll work with that.
70 We've worked with it since 2001. But our recommendation is you have 24
71 meetings. Like Mrs. Jones said, work goes on, applications come in. We always
72 stay busy. Not having a meeting doesn't help us any.

73

74 That's somewhat the history, but Mr. Vanarsdall and Mr. Archer and others may
75 remember, Mr. Jernigan, maybe, why you all chose to do that in 2000 or the
76 2001 calendar.

77

78 Mr. Vanarsdall - We chose it because of what you said. John Marlles
79 was the director then and he wasn't against it. So, John suggested why don't
80 you ask each of your supervisors. I said that's a good idea. I asked Dick and

81 Dick said, "Well, I know you all work for each other's cases and when I was on
82 the Planning Commission, we worked each other's cases." I told him the reason
83 and he said, "Well, I don't have any problem with it." I think the rest of them
84 asked the same thing. How long ago, 2001?

85

86 Mr. Archer - I think it was earlier than that, but it might not have
87 been.

88

89 Mrs. Jones - [Unintelligible.]

90

91 Mr. Archer - It was 2001?

92

93 Mr. Vanarsdall - Since then, I haven't had the first developer, the first
94 attorney, the first applicant—I have had no one complain about it, never in all
95 these years. In fact, Ted, who used to be with us, started taking his vacation
96 because he goes to England every other year. As far as the Planning
97 Commission, as far as my district, far as I'm concerned, I've had absolutely no
98 problem with it.

99

100 Mrs. Jones - So, would you say that you would like to continue
101 having one meeting removed and how about having two? Do you feel a need to
102 have two?

103

104 Mr. Vanarsdall - I think we're talking about two different animals now, I
105 don't know. I guess so. Chris would not take off the -

106

107 Mr. Archer - Well, if you say I'm the architect, I mean author. I'll
108 speak to it. I think the first thing that called it to my attention was my vacation
109 schedule is in August because I use timeshares and I use them at the times that
110 were most convenient to my family and myself. A couple of times, I've had to
111 trade them and pay a three hundred and some dollar fee to trade them. A couple
112 of times, I've cut vacation short and come back. One time I left the Homestead
113 and drove back down here to be at a Planning Commission meeting. So, I just
114 surfaced the idea because it was the month of August and it was a month in
115 which most of us at that time did take a vacation. And I'm aware how staff feels
116 about it; I know how Randy feels about it. We've had this meeting before, at
117 least once, maybe twice, to discuss it. I would say my reason is selfish, but that's
118 the reason that I surfaced the idea. Did we have a work session on it or did we
119 just discuss with the supervisors?

120

121 Mr. Silber - I think it was discussed and a meeting.

122

123 Mr. Archer - I guess Ernie and I are the two senior people here.
124 I've never had anybody ask me about it, never had anybody complain about it,
125 and never had anybody question it.

126

127 Mr. Vanarsdall - The people we serve have no problem with it.
128
129 Mr. Archer - Not to my knowledge. That's the way it's been. If you
130 were going to ask me that question, yeah, I prefer it stay the same way, too, but
131 I'm flexible. I can do what everybody else wants to do, but I don't think I'm going
132 to cancel any more of my vacations. At that time, I was relatively new and there
133 are times when cases come up that even though I feel comfortable with
134 somebody else handling it, sometimes they're personal enough that I feel like I
135 should be there. That's the other thing—I don't like to miss meetings because I
136 made a commitment to do it. So, rather than miss a meeting, I'd just as soon not
137 have that particular meeting. Overall, with the vacation schedule being what it is,
138 everybody gets some benefit out of it. That's just my personal opinion.
139
140 Mr. Branin – Ray?
141
142 Mr. Jernigan - We had discussed this some and I think you feel that
143 maybe it's not fair to the zoning staff for them to have to work the 12 meetings
144 and the POD staff be off. But some things in life just aren't fair. I don't feel the
145 same way you do on that. I kind of agree with Chris. I haven't had anybody
146 complain to me or ask me why we take that month off. If I do, I'll just say we
147 need to get caught up on things. I don't really see a problem with it, but I don't
148 think we should take the zoning meeting off because zoning is a little different
149 situation. POD's, if we have 45 POD's rather than 35 the next month, it takes us
150 an extra 20 or 30 minutes. Zoning cases are a little different and they're more
151 important. It's a legislative action by the Board, but we have to leave it up to
152 them. I don't think we should miss the zoning meeting. I'm okay having the POD
153 meeting off. Also, I discussed this with Mr. Donati, too. Bonnie-Leigh also, the
154 Board takes off two weeks. No disrespect to Mr. Thornton, but we hustle. We're
155 hustling out there sometimes maybe a little more than the Board because we
156 have to get that stuff ready to go to them.
157
158 Mrs. Jones - Oh gosh, not in my wildest imagination do I spend the
159 time that Pat O'Bannon spends on a lot of things. Just to be perfectly honest
160 with you, I think the Board and we are somewhat separate in job descriptions.
161
162 Mr. Jernigan - You know yourself, when you finish a case and send
163 it to Ms. O'Bannon, it's ready to go. When I send a case to Jim, I want it finished
164 and ready to go.
165
166 Mr. Vanarsdall - It's all of our jobs. That doesn't change.
167
168 Mr. Jernigan - As Jim would say, the lightning rod. I'm okay with
169 missing the POD meeting, but I'm not okay with taking a zoning meeting off.
170
171 Mrs. Jones - Two things quickly and I'll just finish this up and move
172 on. I feel that probably the last person who's going to have the big complaint

173 geared to them is the Planning Commissioner. I doubt that developers are going
174 to come up to me with their hands on hips saying, "What are you doing taking
175 away a meeting?" They're not going to complain to me. They'll complain to
176 somebody else, but they probably won't complain to me, or at least I wouldn't
177 expect them to. Secondly, I can make my vacation fit into the timeframes I have
178 with advance planning, usually. Then there are always times, like a medical
179 issue, that I've already had hit me. There are times when we just can't be here
180 and life goes on. My actual preference is that we have 24 meetings a year. The
181 only reason I brought up missing a zoning one was to bring it into context. The
182 business of the County marches on, I think that it marches on and we're just one
183 part of that. So, I think we should give the opportunity for it to continue in a
184 logical and a scheduled way, as opposed to putting an artificial gap in the system
185 that then would have unintended consequences. That's my feeling.

186
187 Mr. Branin - All right. What I'm hearing here is Mrs. Jones feels
188 that it should be 24 meetings moving forward. We have Ernie and Chris say they
189 like the way it is and it works; let's keep it the same. Ray, I don't know what
190 you're thinking.

191
192 Mr. Jernigan - I'm all right the way it is.

193
194 Mr. Branin - Okay.

195
196 Mr. Silber - Can I mention one other piece of information I think
197 staff wanted me to share? I'd like to hear from Joe, too, if he has something to
198 add. One thing you do need to be aware of is that there are some legal
199 requirements as far as—I think you are aware of this. Action has to be taken on
200 POD's, subdivisions, zoning cases, within a certain period of time. It's 90 days
201 for POD's and subdivisions. Zoning cases are 100 days. We haven't run into the
202 issue yet, because typically an applicant will defer it by themselves. When they
203 defer it, the clock is no longer ticking so it's not an issue. It is possible and we've
204 run into a couple situations where we were fearful that if anyone had filed around
205 the August period of time, we could run into a situation where you would have to
206 be very concerned about acting on something before the 90 days. Ninety days is
207 from the time that they file the application. So, if they file in early June and don't
208 get on the July POD meeting, but the clock is ticking, and then there's no August
209 meeting, it puts you into a situation in September of having to act if someone
210 didn't want to defer it. Anyway, from a legal standpoint, I just want to inform you
211 of the potential consequences.

212
213 Joe, did you have anything you wanted to add?

214
215 Mr. Emerson - Not really. I think the only thing I would say is that I
216 support your position. I think 24 meetings a year. It's really kind of important.
217 You do have the time limits. I do think it kind of stacks up on the POD side. They
218 actually increase their workload when it gets to that September meeting. While

219 you may not hear the complaints, I believe there are some people who do get a
220 little concerned about it.

221

222 Mr. Jernigan - Developers?

223

224 Mr. Emerson - Yes. Their projects are being slowed down. They
225 have to get their submittals in. They rush and put pressure on staff to get it done
226 in July because they go, "Hey, I can't get this done in August, I've got to get this
227 done," or they get bumped and they have to wait. Or they end up on the zoning
228 meeting because they're stuck in a timeframe where they want to move forward.
229 I do think that there are some issues there.

230

231 Mr. Branin - I would address that by saying, Joe, there probably is
232 times, but there are also a lot of times that developers don't get their information
233 into staff and the Commissioners until the day before. These are the same
234 people that are probably complaining.

235

236 Mr. Emerson - Sure. I don't disagree with that.

237

238 Mr. Branin - So, I don't know if it's a positive or a negative to say,
239 but we are the Commission. So, that really has no relevancy to me.

240

241 Mrs. Jones - When we first moved to Richmond, my husband's an
242 attorney and the Courts used to be closed for the month of August, which is kind
243 of an unusual [unintelligible]. August is vacation month. Citizens aren't available
244 for meetings very much during August. We do have all those arguments on the
245 other side. I think we need to decide where our preference is and then back it up
246 with solid reasons so that we are all comfortable with whatever decision we
247 make.

248

249 Mr. Vanarsdall - Well, Mrs. Jones, why don't we take a vote on it.

250

251 Mrs. Jones - Shall we make a motion?

252

253 Mr. Jernigan - Can I ask another question? Mr. Thornton, I guess
254 you can answer this. Why does the Board take off two meetings?

255

256 Mr. Thornton - There are several answers. To give you my answer, I
257 would guess part of it is tradition. Since I've been on the Board, they'd done that.
258 And the other reason is this might be the concept of the [unintelligible]. If you
259 look at all the months of the 12 months, that is month that probably if you can
260 take extra time off, you do. And also obviously for other religious reasons, we do
261 that for December also. I would think that's the rationale.

262

263 Mr. Jernigan - Okay. So, it's kind of falling along with the same—

264

265 Mr. Branin - If we follow that precedent, then we're not going to
266 change anything, simply because it is now common habit for us to take off POD.
267 If we use that rationale.
268

269 Mr. Archer - I suppose. Congress is on vacation, so is the
270 president. I just thought I'd throw that in.
271

272 Mr. Jernigan - Well, I'd like to think we'd do a better job than
273 Congress.
274

275 Mr. Archer - Well, we do.
276

277 Mr. Branin - All right. How do you want to approach voting on this?
278 Does anybody want to make a motion to change to 24 meetings or does
279 someone want to make a motion to maintain what we're doing. How do we do it?
280

281 Mr. Thornton - Mr. Chairman, may I make a suggestion? I think
282 you're doing the right thing with discussing this among yourselves. What I would
283 suggest, though, is whatever your decision is, you want to do it in such a way
284 when you codify it so that gives future Board members the ability to take a look at
285 it and change it if they want to. Of course, that probably could be done anyway.
286 I'm just saying, what you do today, just make sure that it's so open that another
287 Board maybe next year might take a look at it if they choose to do so. You never
288 know what a Board coming after us—Their views may be different about that.
289

290 Mr. Vanarsdall - That would be on anything. I think they have the right
291 to do whatever they want to do. I agree with you.
292

293 Mr. Branin - With the current Board, we move to maintain it, but for
294 future [Unintelligible].
295
296

297 Mr. Thornton - That's just a suggestion.
298

299 Mrs. Jones - We vote every year on the following year's calendar,
300 do we not?
301

302 Mr. Jernigan - Let me ask this, this is August. We do not have a
303 meeting scheduled for this month now. Let's say the vote went that way, did you
304 plan to have a meeting this month with the developers knowing that we don't
305 have a meeting this month?
306

307 Mrs. Jones - I don't have any cases in Tuckahoe, so I'm not the
308 one to ask. Sorry.
309

310 Mr. Jernigan - This is the 2008 calendar. What we're voting on
311 today is for the 2008, not the 2007. We're off this August anyhow. Okay. I
312 would make a motion that for right now, we leave things just like they are. But I
313 would also say that Joe says that we're having complaints from developers about
314 us not being here. I would like to hear about it. If Joe is getting complaints or
315 you're getting complaints—Is it bothering you or us to be gone? Bear in mind,
316 Randy, when we do zoning cases now—And what you're talking about, the legal
317 portion, is right. But POD's now, so much is done during the zoning case, that the
318 POD is close to a slam dunk because they've gone through the elevation and
319 everything at the time of zoning. So, it's not a whole lot of work that goes into the
320 POD. I'm not talking about a UMU, but what I'm saying on an average zoning
321 case, we're getting elevations, we're getting conceptual site plans, we're getting
322 so much, proffer and landscaping and all. I feel that we can work that out in the
323 90-day period. Normally when they file that POD or for a subdivision, it should
324 come back and be pretty straight. So, I see what you're saying, we do have a
325 time limit—

326
327 Mr. Branin - But we do such a good job on the front end.

328
329 Mr. Jernigan - Well we're putting a lot of information on the front end.

330
331 Mr. Silber - What we could do in preparing for next year's
332 discussion is, better keep track of comments we receive. We're not getting
333 complaints saying why is this meeting canceled. What happens is, we get
334 developers and attorneys and other agencies having to work around this, having
335 to adjust. So, it increases the complication and the workload for the County
336 administration to deal with this, and the developers to work around this missed
337 meeting. I can't say that they come across as complaints, as much as they come
338 across as frustrations and aggravations and irritations to work around it. I can't
339 tell you how many times for this August meeting that's coming up, that I've had to
340 adjust, and staff has had to adjust, in all kinds of ways in doing the plans that
341 normally would have been flowing through. We make it seem seamless. The
342 Commission may not know it. It's all coming right on through and it seems fine.
343 But I can tell you, there's a lot of work behind the scenes that takes place for
344 many things that don't even go to the Planning Commission. Things that go to
345 the Planning Commission are probably 20% of our workload. The other 80% is
346 building permits and administration plans and a lot of plans you don't see. A
347 missed meeting just causes the development community and staff to have to
348 adjust. I think we can better track it. We could probably have some information
349 for you so a year from now we can talk about this.

350
351 Mr. Vanarsdall - That's what I was going to suggest. Is this the second
352 or the third meeting we've had on this? I know we've had two.

353
354 Mr. Silber - At least two.

355

356 Mr. Vanarsdall - And you all couldn't come up with anything justifiable
357 to drop it, no more than we have today. We have no reason to not leave it like it
358 is. We don't have any reason. If you all can come up with a reason, we'd do it.
359

360 Mr. Silber - That's fine.
361

362 Mr. Vanarsdall - Last time you didn't have any either.
363

364 Mr. Silber - Okay. Well, we can put together a list. I just want you
365 to know—
366

367 Ms. Cleary- Well, we do get a lot of phone calls, Randy's right.
368

369 Mr. Vanarsdall - I guess you do. You get phone calls and everything.
370

371 Ms. Cleary- We get calls regarding the filing deadline, especially
372 when it refers to—
373

374 Mr. Vanarsdall - Ann, half the people that want that filing deadline,
375 some of them make it, some don't, and they don't put up anything after they get it
376 approved for six years and they couldn't wait to get it done.
377

378 Mrs. Jones - So the sense is, you have a stack up because of a
379 missed meeting, is that there is a clear disadvantage to the process because of
380 the missed meeting. That's what I'm hearing.
381

382 Mr. Vanarsdall - But that doesn't affect the Planning Commission.
383

384 Mrs. Jones - I think it does when you look at the September
385 schedule.
386

387 Mr. Vanarsdall - [Unintelligible.]
388

389 Mrs. Jones - No, but does it have an affect on the September
390 agenda from the stack up due to the missed August meeting.
391

392 Mr. Silber - I don't think the Commission will notice a big
393 difference, but it will be an impact on staff.
394

395 Mr. Vanarsdall - The reason isn't there to do anything different. When
396 you all find a reason, then we'll consider it, I'll consider it.
397

398 Mrs. Jones - I'm looking more for a reason to miss it. Why do we
399 miss it? I would rather have 24 and give the opportunity for everybody to move
400 ahead in a logical and prescribed way.
401

402 Mr. Branin - All right.
403
404 Mr. Vanarsdall - We have 15 minutes to get downstairs, Mr. Chairman.
405
406 Mr. Branin - Do we have a motion?
407
408 Mr. Archer - Let me just say this before we vote, and I know I'll get
409 the credit for authoring this, whatever it is. I didn't want to cause dissension.
410 Again, to reiterate, that was what my purpose was - I don't feel like I should miss
411 meetings. And Ernie usually handles my cases and does them very adequately.
412 On occasion, there are some that come up that I feel like I'd rather be here when
413 it happens, and I'm sure everybody else feels the same way, too, when you have
414 to miss. So, that wasn't my reason for wanting to do this. Seeing all of us who
415 took vacation in August, thought it was a good idea, but it was not to cause
416 dissension.
417
418 Mr. Jernigan - I want to say again, if we're going to vote on this for
419 next year, what I'd like to do is I'll make a motion to leave things as they are right
420 now, but what I would like to do is maybe we take a survey or make some phone
421 calls and find out. We don't have to have a big meeting like this. If we're
422 creating a problem, then let's find out about it. Let's take a few months, we'll find
423 out about it, and if it's not right, then we can change it.
424
425 Mr. Vanarsdall - That's exactly what I said.
426
427 Mr. Silber - I think we're all saying the same thing. My
428 recommendation is leave it the way it is, let us collect data, and this time next
429 year, we will have more information for you. We'll come out with a proposed
430 calendar and we'll say this is the difficulty that it's caused us and then you all can
431 decide what you want to do about it.
432
433 Mr. Vanarsdall - I don't mind asking the developers we work with. I
434 know most of them well enough to ask them and they know me well enough to
435 tell me.
436
437 Mr. Branin - Now the table has swung a little bit the other way and
438 it's more leave it as it is. Mrs. Jones, it's up to you. If you want to make a motion
439 to put as 24 meetings, make the motion, but I think everybody's going to go the
440 other way.
441
442 Mrs. Jones - Well, I think so. We can come up with a consensus or
443 do we have to have a motion?
444
445 Mr. Branin - I think we have to have a motion.
446
447 Mrs. Jones - Okay.

448
449 Mr. Branin - We can take care of this now, correct, in this meeting.
450
451 Mr. Silber - The Planning Commission needs to adopt a calendar
452 for 2008.
453
454 Mr. Branin - We can do that.
455
456 Mr. Silber - You can do it now or you can do it downstairs.
457
458 Mr. Jernigan - Can we adjust for next year late? If after six months,
459 everybody's complaining about us being off, can we come back and say—
460
461 Mr. Silber - I don't think we will have had the chance to collect
462 any information until next May and June.
463
464 Mr. Jernigan - Yeah, but what I mean is, we could meet maybe in
465 the first six months sometime of next year and adjust.
466
467 Mr. Branin - It is easier to add a meeting than take off a meeting,
468 correct?
469
470 Mr. Archer - It seems to me that by the time the August meeting
471 rolls around next year, the calendar will already have been approved one way or
472 the other.
473
474 Mr. Branin - Well, the calendar will be approved as of tonight. Six
475 months from now, if someone says I really have been hassled, and two or three
476 others of us say yes, we've found out that it is a problem, so let's go ahead and
477 add the meeting. We have that ability, correct?
478
479 Mrs. Jones - Gentleman, I don't want to be complaint driven. I don't
480 want to have to change my schedule because some developer is making a lot of
481 noise, or isn't making a lot of noise. I think we ought to do what we think is right.
482
483 Mr. Branin - The general feeling I'm hearing here, and the feeling-
484 We have commissioners that say, you know what, we like not having an August
485 meeting. We have a secretary that's saying absolutely, the staff doesn't want-
486 it's not an uneven thing. The zoning people are not saying it's not fair, so you
487 shouldn't be thinking in that action to take care of them. So, right now, it's we
488 push forward exactly the way it is, but with the option that if we found out that we
489 are creating problems, us as Commissioners are creating problems, we still can
490 come back and change it.
491
492 Mr. Vanarsdall - Okay.
493

494 Mrs. Jones - Well, I think we need to speak with one voice and I
495 don't want this to be a divisive thing. If I had to make a motion, I would make a
496 motion that we have 24 meetings as a Planning Commission next year, but I
497 realize that that's not going to be passed. I don't know whether we want to go
498 ahead and just say that we will keep the calendar as-is and revisit this issue next
499 year. That I can vote for. However you'd like to do it.
500
501 Mr. Branin - I'd like a motion to be placed that we move forward
502 with the calendar as-is, and if the Commissioners find that there are problems
503 that are created by this calendar, we have the option to change it.
504
505 Mr. Vanarsdall - That's a good motion and I'll second it.
506
507 Mr. Branin - Motion was made by Mr. Branin, seconded by Mr.
508 Vanarsdall. All in favor say aye. All opposed say no. One. The ayes have it, the
509 motion carries.
510
511 Mrs. Jones - All right. I'll be nay.
512
513 Mr. Vanarsdall - Do you want to take care of the second item while we
514 are here, Mr. Chairman?
515
516 Mr. Branin - What is that?
517
518 Mr. Vanarsdall - This pertains to—
519
520 Mrs. Jones - That's part of our meeting, I think.
521
522 Mr. Vanarsdall - The Rules and Regulations, Section 5, Meetings, all
523 motions to approve require a second. I think it was sent to you in the mail.
524
525 Mrs. Jones - Do we have to do that during the public meeting?
526
527 Mr. Vanarsdall - No.
528
529 Mr. Silber - Do you want to talk about now real quickly?
530
531 Mr. Vanarsdall - Well, we have to either do it now or at the end of the
532 meeting.
533
534 Mr. Silber - Okay.
535
536 Mr. Vanarsdall - We're here now.
537
538 Mr. Silber - Okay. What Mr. Vanarsdall's referring to is
539 consideration of the Planning Commission Rules and Regulations. This relates to

540 consideration of a second on a motion. You may recall this came up several
541 months ago. Robert's Rules of Order does not require a second on a motion. The
542 past practice of the Planning Commission has been that a second is required on
543 a motion. What we have recommended is to just go ahead and use your past
544 practice. We've made a suggested change to the Rules and Regulations to
545 require a second on motions made and that's our recommendation to you all. If
546 that's what you want to do, it would require you all to amend your Rules and
547 Regulations to incorporate that.

548

549 Mr. Jernigan - I was fine with it before. It's just when we had the
550 meeting, one of the citizens stood up and said you don't have to have a second.

551

552 Mr. Vanarsdall - We've already covered that. Joe found out the
553 Robert's rules are according to the size. We don't have but five people. All we
554 want to do is leave it. I think you're recommending it to leave it.

555

556 Mr. Silber - Right.

557

558 Mr. Vanarsdall - I mean to have seconds.

559

560 Mr. Silber - To have a second and incorporate it—

561

562 Mr. Vanarsdall - I think there are a lot of advantages to have a second.

563

564 Mr. Silber - So, everybody's okay with that?

565

566 Mrs. Jones - Absolutely.

567

568 Mr. Archer - I move that we retain the past practice of the Planning
569 Commission as it pertains to seconds and that the rules be amended to add that
570 item as suggested by the Secretary.

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572 Mr. Vanarsdall - I second it.

573

574 Mr. Branin - Motion made by Mr. Archer, seconded by Mr.
575 Vanarsdall. All in favor say aye. All opposed say no. The ayes have it, the
576 motion carries. Ladies and gentleman, this meeting is adjourned.

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Randall R. Silber, Secretary

Tommy Branin, Chairperson