

PLANNING COMMISSION
GLADSTONE, MISSOURI
City Hall Council Chambers

Tuesday
January 17, 2012
7:30 pm

Item 1 on the Agenda: Roll Call.

Present: Ms. Alexander
Mr. Hartman
Mr. Markenson
Mr. Ringhausen
Ms. Smith
Mr. Steffens
Mr. Turnage
Mr. Ward
Mr. Yarber
Chairman Velasquez

Absent: Ms. Abbott
Mr. Whitton

Council & Staff Present:

Councilman Brian Hill
Councilman Bill Garnos
Scott Wingerson, Assistant City Manager
Chris Helmer, Planning Specialist
Becky Jarrett, Administrative Assistant

Item 2 on the Agenda: Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Velasquez let the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3 on the Agenda: Approval of the November 21, 2011 minutes.

MOTION: By Mr. Steffens, second by Mr. Ringhausen to approve the November 21, 2011 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Item 4 on the Agenda: Communications from the Audience.

None.

Item 5 on the Agenda: Other Business- Election of Officers

Ms. Alexander nominated by acclamation Mr. Turnage for Chairman; Mr. Steffens for Vice-Chairman and Ms. Abbott for Secretary. Mr. Markenson gave the second.

Mr. Markenson asked if there was a nominating committee for this group.

Mr. Wingerson answered that due to the small nature of the group there is not a nominating committee. Generally, over the years as the group works together a chair will emerge; however, this last year was an exception due to the fact that Mr. Hill was promoted to the City Council. He believes what Ms. Alexander is suggesting is tenure on the Commission is really important.

Mr. Markenson said he is still at a loss thinking about the fact that the current Chair has only been in office a few months.

Mr. Velasquez commented that his choice is to back away at this time and allow someone else to take the lead. He called for a vote on the motion.

VOTE:

Ms. Alexander	Yes
Mr. Hartman	Yes
Mr. Markenson	Yes
Mr. Ringhausen	Yes
Ms. Smith	Yes
Mr. Steffens	Yes
Mr. Turnage	Yes
Mr. Ward	Yes
Mr. Yarber	Yes
Chairman Velasquez	Yes

The motion carried. (10-yes, 0-no)

Item 6 on the Agenda: Communication from the City Council and City Staff

Mr. Wingerson welcomed the Commission back from the holidays. He hopes to have more applications for them to hear this year and thanked Mr. Velasquez for his service as Chairman. He invited the Commission to stay after the meeting for a quick picture and a bit of social time in the south conference room with some food and punch as a thank you for their time spent on the Commission last year.

Item 7 on the Agenda: Communication from the Planning Commission Members

Ms. Alexander said that she is delighted that the two Council members who are the liaisons for this Board are from the Planning Commission.

Ms. Smith said the improvement on the Antioch Road curve is excellent. She also mentioned all the signs that are popping up along Antioch Road in front of the tax offices.

Mr. Markenson asked about the pine trees along N. Prospect that a member of Northaven Gardens Homes Association had brought up to the Council at one of their meetings. He wondered if they had discussed it since.

Councilman Hill answered that they have talked about it and the City has a plan in place to deal with not only those trees, but trees all over the City that have died or are dying due to a disease called pine wilt. Mr. Hill said that years ago the Homeowners Association tried to acquire the strip of land that Mr. Markenson is referring to so that they could maintain it and the owner always refused. Then when the pine bore issue came up the owner tried to give it to the Association and they politely said no. His understanding of the policy is that owners all over the City have until April to remove the diseased trees and if they aren't removed they will become code enforcement issues.

Mr. Turnage thanked Mr. Velasquez for his service and for stepping in at a critical time. He also thanked the Commission for their vote of confidence. He said they are a good group who is inquisitive and does their homework. He joked that he wasn't sure what the qualifications were to be Chair, but evidently a full head of hair is not one of them!

Mr. Ringhausen congratulated the new group of officers. He has had the opportunity to use the new open trails by Happy Rock Park and it is a wonderful asset to both Kansas City North and Gladstone. He said that right before Christmas there was a water main break in front of his home. Obviously, the line was fixed, but the sidewalk has still not been repaired.

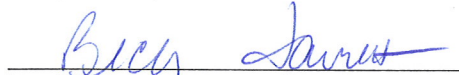
Mr. Wingerson said he would check on it.


Mr. Yarber congratulated the new officers. He said the new stretch of North Broadway is great. He said he has mentioned the traffic light at Home Depot before, but he continues to baffle him as to why the light is there at all. It almost seems like it should be a flashing red or yellow.

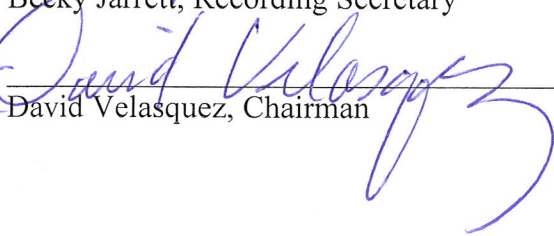
Item 8 on the Agenda: Adjournment

Chairman Velasquez adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted:


Becky Jarrett, Recording Secretary

Approved as submitted 


David Velasquez, Chairman

Approved as corrected _____