

BLAND COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes for August 9th, 2010

Members Present:

R.B. Anderson, Henry Blessing, Meagan Bradshaw, Stephen Kelley, Deborah Looney, Jerry Mercer, Elmer Chewning, John Dodson

Members Absent:

Guy Boone, Jim Baker, David Taylor

Others Present:

Joel K. Cagle, Planning Commission Secretary; Willie Howlett, Bland County Administrator; Nick Asbury, Board of Supervisors Member

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:00 PM, Chairman Mercer called the meeting of the Bland County Planning Commission to order at the Bland County School Board Office; Bastian, Virginia. The Invocation was given by Chairman Mercer and allegiance was pledged to the flag of our country by everyone present.

ROLL CALL

Planning Commission Secretary Joel Cagle took the roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Mercer invited a motion to approve the meeting minutes of July 12th, 2010. Commissioner Kelley made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of July 12th, 2010; Commissioner Dodson provided the second, and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A public hearing was held to receive public comments on the application from Ronald Malmberg to obtain a CUP to have a Dwelling, accessory (existing) on Tax Map 91B2-4-C1.

There being no registered speakers present, the public hearing was closed by Chairman Mercer. After some discussion, a motion to recommend the CUP to be forwarded on to the Board of Supervisors with no conditions attached was made by Commissioner Dodson with a second provided by Commissioner Anderson; with a unanimous vote tendered by all present.

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NEW BUSINESS

-None

OLD BUSINESS

-At the invitation of the Planning Commission, representatives of Mountain Preservation Association were present to speak in opposition to Wind Farms. Dr. Teresa Paine, Fred Lawless (electrical engineer), Mark Tyson (Priest), and Charles Stacy (Lawyer) stated the reasons for opposing Wind Farms. Reasons stated: Clear cutting areas for site; blasting, damage to wells and springs; obtrusive aeronautical lighting; sedimentation/flooding problems; property values dropping; economics; health issues, flicker effect, sounds-low freq.; impact on wildlife; wind inefficiency; ramp up and down for back up power stations; leases on ridge-tops v/s view shed; legal issues, landowner v/s landowner (Land owner that benefits from wind farms pays fees not company); Government funding keep wind farms going; Wind is not really green energy.

-Discussion ensued on the proposed ordinance. It was agreed that Chairman Mercer, Commissioner Dodson, and Mr. Cagle would meet and go over the proposed ordinance editing it as needed and present it before the Commission on September 13th, 2010 meeting.

ITEMS TABLED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Planning Commission at this time, Commissioner Dodson made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Blessing provided the second, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joel K. Cagle- Secretary
Planning Commission
County of Bland