

Starke County Planning Commission  
Regular Meeting  
February 18, 2009

Attendance: Butch Ritchie, president & citizen member; Lee Nagai, vice president & citizen member; Michael Reetz, executive secretary & extension educator; Daniel Bridegroom, commissioner; Dennis Estok, surveyor; Byron Walters, trustee; Jack Hudgens & Richard Singleton, citizen members; Steven A. Dodge, commission counsel; Bruce W. Williams, administrator/inspector; Pamla J. Starkey, recording secretary. There was (1) one visitor present.

1. Approval of the minutes of the January 21, 2009 meeting: Mr. Reetz made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Mr. Hudgens. Motion carried (8-0).
2. Old Business
  - a) Report from Mr. Lucas & Mr. Dodge's meeting regarding board member Lee Nagai: Mr Dodge stated that he told Mr. Lucas that he thought that it was what party you are when you are appointed to the board. Mr. Lucas stated that it is a gray area of the law. Mr. Dodge then told him that if we didn't have an answer it could go to court to find out, then Mr. Lucas said that he would talk to the commissioners and then get back with us.

Mr. Ritchie let the board know that the commissioners would like us to go ahead with the Unsafe Building Ordinance, Manufactured Housing Ordinance and the Dog Kennel Ordinance. Mr. Estok asked who enforces the ordinances, Mr. Nagai stated that the administrator enforces the ordinance and explained the process that we follow.

Mr. Ritchie stated that we need to tackle one ordinance at a time. Board agreed.

b) Manufactured Housing Ordinance: Mr. Estok asked for someone to explain the purpose of this ordinance and what it details. Mr. Hudgens explained why he thinks this amendment is necessary. Mr. Nagai & Mr. Hudgens would like to keep the (10) ten year limit on a manufactured home instead of a (15) fifteen year limit. Mr. Bridegroom and Mr. Estok have a problem with putting any year limit on the homes. After discussion by the board Mr. Nagai made a motion to hold a public hearing next meeting with the (10) ten year limit, seconded by Mr. Reetz. Motion carried (8-0).

Mr. Ritchie let the board know that Mr. Dodge & Mr. Williams will not be present at the meeting in March and asked if the board still wanted to have public hearings at that time, the board stated that we should go on with the hearings.

c) Unsafe Building Ordinance: Mr. Ritchie explained the need for this ordinance, stating that we had organizations from Koontz Lake and Bass Lake as well as citizens from different parts of the county complaining of different places that need to be demolished or boarded up. After discussion by the board, Mr. Reetz made a motion to hold a public hearing next meeting, seconded by Mr. Bridegroom. Motion carried. (8-0)

d) Dog Kennel Ordinance: Mr. Nagai made a motion to table the Dog Kennel Ordinance until the April 2009 meeting, seconded by Mr. Hudgens. Motion carried. (8-0)

e) Fee Schedule: Mr. Hudgens made a motion to table the Fee Schedule until April meeting, seconded by Mr. Nagai. Motion carried. (8-0)

1. New Business

a) Mr. Nagai suggested that we include confined feeding ordinance when we discuss dog kennels. Mr. Hudgens stated that he would like to invite the Board of Zoning Appeal members to discuss the confined feeding ordinances with this board. Mr. Reetz stated that other counties already have these ordinances and could get copies from them and the states confined feeding ordinance.

Rich Singleton introduced himself to the board as the new citizen member of the board.

Mr. Hudgens asked if Mrs. Starkey would contact the newspapers and the radio station to attend the meetings. Mrs. Starkey stated that she does send all three of them emails of the agenda at least a week prior to the meetings.

Mr. Bridegroom talked about the grants for the town of San Pierre. They will be able to bring the block into compliance. The only thing that could stop the process is a residence that could possibly be occupied that is northwest of the bank building and if that is true they will not be able to proceed and will not receive the grant.

Mr. Reetz made a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Mr. Hudgens. Motion carried. (8-0) Meeting was adjourned at 8:16.

This meeting was taped and will be on file in the Starke County Planning Commission Office. The next scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

Pamla J. Starkey  
Recording Secretary