



ORIENTAL PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, August 18, 2021 3:00PM

Oriental Town Hall – 507 Church Street, Oriental, NC

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

AT 3:05 PM, called the meeting to order. Vice Chair Rahm Member Stone, Member Willi, Vice Chair Allen, and Member Stone were present. The LUA and Commissioners Simmons and Overcash were also present, along with Candidate for Commissioner Frank Roe. No other member of the Public was present. The meeting was properly noticed.

Minutes: Member Willi makes a MOTION to accept the Minutes as presented from June 2021. Member Stone Seconds. 4-0. For the record, Chair Rahm noted that the July 2021 Meeting was cancelled.

- **OLD BUSINESS:** Dark Skies Ordinance and placement of approved solar lights to replace existing Duke Energy lighting on streets. LUA Miller told the Board about past discussions on a dark skies Ordinance- as had been taken up by the previous Board. Noting that the (1) the Town was the biggest offender not having downward directed lighting, and that (2) enforcement of replacement lighting to new standard would be difficult at best, the discussion was tabled. LUA Miller offered to forward Minutes concerning this discussion and potential Ordinance language to the Board for review.
- In an attempt to address concern (1) noted above and to decrease costs associated with street lighting costs, and to provide lighting following power outages, the Town Board agreed to do a “pilot” program with the enactment of the 21-22 FY Budget to install 4-5 new solar powered replacement street lights and remove the same number of Duke Energy powered lights. She asked for recommendations for placement of those, noting we would like to see durability of the pilot lights at the harshest conditions locations in town. PB agreed to look for a good location to cluster new lighting and remove Duke street lights.
- Vice Chair Rahm discusses vacancy. LUA has asked Mr. Warren Johnson to consider, but he declined. Chair Rahm discussed candidates that she had in mind, and was authorized to approach candidates for their interest. Candidate will be forwarded to the Town Board for their September meeting for approval and appointment.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Berry at 404 Main St requests that we ask the Board to schedule a Public Hearing for that property. Still the other property owners must be notified per NCGS. Member Willi makes a MOTION to forward the request to the Town Board for a STR SUP Public Hearing. Member Stone seconds. 4-0.
- **Compliance forms for review:** Daniels (add shed)1110 Link Lane, Lynch- 305 Freemason- add to existing deck, enclose, potential new businesses- TPU allowable uses- 1202 Broad St extension,
- **Ordinance Violations:** Electronic gaming at permitted secondhand store- not allowed within 1000 ft of public space, 300 ft of R-1, R-2, or R-3, with a Special Use Permit. LUA Noted letter of violation sent and awaiting receipt return for letter and removal of machines from location.

- LUA noted the dilapidated house that prompted our foray into minimum housing code is now sold- awaiting request for demolition permit- progress toward rectifying the situation on Hodges St. Also- old Steamer building is down.

ADJOURN: Vice Chair Allen made a MOTION to adjourn. Member Stone seconds. 4-0. **Next Meeting scheduled for September 15, 3PM**

Signed: _____

Julie Rahm, Chairperson, Planning Board

Attest: _____

Diane H. Miller, LUA to Board

DRAFT