

City of Marine on St. Croix
Planning Commission Meeting
Tuesday, July 28, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Willenbring at 7:34 pm. Warren, Zajac, Brenner, Perham, Roden, and Creager present.

Citizens Present: Kate Bergeron (Country Messenger),

Agenda:

1. 7:30pm Call to Order
2. Dick Johnson: Pre-application CUP – 11 Judd Street Rental of Second Floor Apartment
3. Review Codes in the SFR, SFU, SCR, SCU, VC Districts
4. Old/New Business
5. Approval of April 26, 2009 minutes
6. Adjournment

Dick Johnson: Pre-application Conditional Use Permit – 11 Judd Street Rental of Second Floor Apartment.

Chairman Willenbring clarified the City of Marine on St. Croix had notified Mr. Johnson by certified letter dated June 16, 2009 to attend the July 28, 2009 Planning Commission meeting. The letter stated that the apartment that is being rented requires a Conditional Use Permit per Section 508.5(2) of City's Zoning Ordinance and that he needs to be brought into compliance. Mr. Dick Johnson was not present at the meeting. The City will first verify if there are still renters and then will take further action.

Review of Codes in the SFR, SFU, SCR, SCU, VC Districts.

The Planning Commission continued to review the Marine on St. Croix's Zoning District Ordinances. The purpose is to compare, clarify and be consistent with the verbiage in each district. The Planning Commission is creating a list of discussion topics that would be reviewed to see if any changes need to be made. This process will be ongoing at future Planning Commission meetings.

Old/New Business

Willenbring noted the St. Croix River Way boat workshop was well attended including four of Marine on St. Croix Planning Commission members; Willenbring, Warren, Roden and Perham in attendance. Willenbring had a book that showed a guided view of the valley that pointed out twenty-six locations of interest along the River Way. Information regarding fisheries, permitting, forests, sustainability, and how to protect the waterways was another topic.

Warren commented on the effects of erosion and appearance. Topography and rocks along the river banks seem to play a part in the amount of erosion.

Phosphorus run off is still an issue from farmlands dating back to the 1960's, which is still present in our ground soils and lakes today.

Another concern is the need for more emphasis on storm water control and more control of impervious surfaces. The reduction in sediment could be improved. The issue of storm water control and the use of natural filtration like rain gardens could also be considered in the future.

The Planning Commission felt overall this workshop was very informative and brought to light some considerations for the City to keep in mind in the future if we want to keep the River quality moving forward in good condition.

Perham noted some articles he had read recently in the papers regarding fireworks and the sensitivities of our waterways. The concern is the old style fireworks are harmful and dangerous to the fish and the river due to the chemicals that are being used; however there is a new product of fireworks that is less harmful. This rose the question of what type of fireworks are used during our 4th of July celebration and what direction are they directed during discharge.

Approval of Minutes *Warren moved and Roden seconded the acceptance of the Planning Commission meeting Minutes of Tuesday, July 28, 2009 as drafted. Motion passed unanimously.*

Adjournment: *Brenner moved and Warren seconded to adjourn the July 28, 2009 Planning Commission meeting at 9:16 pm. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Mary Tomnitz, Assistant City Clerk