

**WASHINGTON BOROUGH PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
APRIL 14, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Washington Borough Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Boyle at 8:00 P.M. in the second floor Court Room/Council Chambers of the Borough Hall. Mr. Boyle read the following statement into the record: "The requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Law", P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, have been satisfied in that adequate notice of this meeting has been published in the Star Gazette and posted on the Bulletin Board of the Borough Hall stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting as required by law." Chairman Boyle led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present: Turner, Post, VanDeursen,
Opdyke, Truman, Jewell, Corica, Boyle
Absent: Perez
Also Present: Stuart Ours, Attorney
William Gleba, Board Engineer

Ozzie Perez will be late – probably around 8:30.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Meeting of February 11, 2008: No comments.

Therefore, it was moved by Corica seconded by Post to approve the minutes as presented.

ROLL CALL: Turner, Post, VanDeursen,
Opdyke, Truman, Jewell, Corica, Boyle
Ayes: 6; Nays: 0; Abstentions: 2(Turner, Truman)
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION/APPLICATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Permitted Businesses Downtown:

Justin Jewell asked if residential should be allowed. Marianne VanDeursen disagreed and would like to see only businesses. Andrew Turner cautioned the Board about denying certain types of businesses. Attorney Ours stated that even though a business is not listed it does not mean that they can't apply for a permit. Marianne VanDeursen noted that instead of prohibiting businesses, the area should be properly zoned. John Corica stated that criteria needs to be in place. Andrew stated that property owners want to fill empty spaces and does not think that owners and real estate agents are on the same page as the Borough. Bob Opdyke and Tina Truman voiced their concerns with restrictions/exclusions and the legality of same. Bill Gleba stated that the list is very detailed. Attorney Ours noted that the Board of Adjustment will hear the applications for businesses not on the list.

Marianne VanDeursen stated that the ordinance needs to be adopted. Revisions can be done at a later date if needed. Andrew noted that the BID and realtors should see the list first. Marianne stated that the draft ordinance can be distributed.

Christina Wykowski came forward and stated that the BID should be involved.

Motion by Boyle, seconded by Turner to direct Board Attorney to prepare draft ordinance to give to Council with a copy to BID and copy to Planning Board for May 12 meeting.

ROLL CALL: Turner, Post, VanDeursen,
Opdyke, Truman, Jewell, Corica, Boyle
Ayes: 8; Nays: 0; Abstentions: 0
Motion carried.

Andrew asked about the sign at PNC bank. John stated that the Borough Engineer (Andy Holt) had sent a letter but received no response.

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Ozzie Perez arrived at 8:31 p.m.

Sign Ordinance:

Andrew asked if businesses can get a variance for a sign. Attorney Ours stated yes. Current signs are grandfathered in.

Therefore it was moved by Turner, seconded by Post to accept ordinance as written.

ROLL CALL: Turner, Post, Perez, VanDeursen,
Opdyke, Truman, Jewell, Corica, Boyle
Ayes: 9; Nays: 0; Abstentions: 0
Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Application/Checklist revisions:

Tina Truman revised the old application but wanted to review what the Board would like to see. John Corica stated that a second signature line for property owner is needed. Will review at next meeting. Clerk will send copy of plan checklists to Tina.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES: None

No public present.

UNAGENDIZED STATEMENTS:

Fred Sinkbeil came before the Board. He lives at 23 Gibson Place. Owns two lots. Wants to move property line 40 ft to make vacant lot smaller. Attorney Ours stated that a survey is needed. Application would be considered a minor subdivision.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Letter re Stew's Auto Body:

Attorney Ours stated that no change in status of case. John Corica stated that the court settlement was for an application to be filed with the Planning Board. Marianne Van Deursen stated she would like the Manager to have a conference call to find out what the status is on this matter. Motion by Turner, seconded by Post to request Manager to find out status.

ROLL CALL: Turner, Post, Perez, VanDeursen,
Opdyke, Truman, Jewell, Corica, Boyle
Ayes: 9; Nays: 0; Abstentions: 0
Motion carried

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia L. Titus, Planning Board