

## NEWPORT CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

**\*March 8<sup>th</sup> 2016\***

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Charles Elliott, Robert Currier, Clark Curtis, Woodman Page, and Dan Ross

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Pam Ladds

**7:00 p.m.** Chair Charles Elliott called the meeting to order. Clark Curtis moved to approve the minutes of the February 16<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 meeting. This was seconded by Dan Ross. **APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS DECISION.**

**7:12 p.m. Election of Officers for 2016:** Clark Curtis spoke about the process of electing officers for the Planning Commission. The current positions are Charles Elliott, Chair; Clark Curtis, Vice Chair; and Woodman Page, Clerk. Robert Currier made a motion to keep the slate of officers as it currently exists. Dan Ross seconded the motion. **APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS DECISION**

**7:14 p.m. Continued Editing Review to City's Zoning Bylaw Article 4 (Note: Line 401 through 421)** Review and editing of bylaws took up where the commission previously left off at article 408.01. Article 409 B removed "Applies to both FBC and Conventional code" since it was redundant. Robert Currier inquired about height restrictions on homes that had solar panels. He was referred to Article 417.02 and 03 as well as the section for the residential district which states the maximum height is 35 ft. Article 411 B waterfront lots were discussed with Clark Curtis mentioning that there were new state regulations in effect for building on waterways. Charles Elliott was waiting for information on the state regulations so that it could be incorporated into the bylaw. Discussion followed on 414 B Abandonment of Structures. Charles Elliott explained that he along with officials from the fire department try to work with owners on finding solutions. In the case of involvement with the fire department it comes down to safety and ensuring that individuals are prevented from entering these buildings. On Article 416 B Obstruction of Vision, Clark Curtis provided examples of streets where motorists' views are obstructed which ultimately impacts public safety. In many of these instances, the response should be to contact the zoning administrator (Charles Elliott) where it will be investigated. For Article 418 B Unlicensed Vehicle Storage in Residential Districts, it was recommended that any reference to drag or stock car racing be removed. Woodman Page raised his concern that changes to any bylaws should ultimately protect property owners in maintaining the value of their homes and properties. Article 420 B Gasoline Stations may require a separate section for motor vehicle service stations since Newport no longer has any gasoline stations that also service automobiles. The commission finished its editing and review up to and including 421 B Roadside Agricultural Stands with Robert Currier inquiring if these stands required permits which they do not.

**8: 51 p.m. Other Business:** Charles Elliott stated that for the commission's next meeting that he was attempting to obtain copies of state regulations relating to construction on waterfront areas and certificates of occupancy. Diagrams within the bylaws are currently being updated and will also be available for review.

**8:58 p.m Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be scheduled for March 22<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 7p.m.

**9:00 p.m.** Robert Currier made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Woodman Page. **APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS DECISION.**

*Minutes taken and transcribed by Woodman Page*

Approved:  Date: 04/05/2016