

Town of Tyrone
Planning Commission Minutes
April 12, 2012

Present: Gordon Shenkle, Chairman
Michael Sank, Commissioner
Judy Jefferson, Commissioner
Dennis Davenport, Town Attorney
Brandon Perkin, Interim Town Manager
Dina Rimi, Zoning and Development Coordinator

Absent: David Nebergall, Vice Chairman
Chris Wigginton, Commissioner

Call to Order

Chairman Shenkle called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Sanak made a motion to approve the agenda. Jefferson seconded the motion; approved 3-0

Approval of Minutes- September 22, 2011,
October 13, 2011
October 27, 2011
November 10, 2011
January 26, 2012
February 23, 2012
March 22, 2012

Commissioner Jefferson made a motion, Commissioner Sanak seconded the motion; approved 3-0.

New Business

1. Discussion on the Site Plan for New Heritage Church.

Ms. Rimi presented the site plan for New Heritage Church. Commissioner Jefferson made a motion to approve, Commissioner Sanak seconded the motion approved 3-0.

2. Discussion and Review of Through Fare Plan.

Ms. Rimi explained that this would be reviewed at a later date with Comprehensive Plan. Commission Jefferson asked Mr. Perkins who in the town sets the speed limits. Mr. Perkins explained that Council sets the speed limit after doing research by using traffic studies along with other guidelines.

3. Discussion of Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Ms. Rimi explained that due to the recent revisions to the zoning ordinance the next step that the Planning Commission would need to take would be to review the Comprehensive land use plan. Ms. Rimi went on to explain that this would be addressed again at the May 10, 2012 Planning Commission workshop.

Public Comments

Richard and Judy Michael, 110 Fox Fall Peachtree City, Georgia, Mr. and Mrs. Michaels explained that they currently own Timberline Construction in Shamrock Industrial Park. Mr. Michaels stated that in 1998 the building side setback for the property where Timberline Construction is located was 8 feet. Mr. Michael would like to purchase a strip of property behind his building for parking and then re plat his property. Mr. Michael asked the Planning Commission to grandfather the 8 feet setbacks and provide him with a letter stating that the setbacks would be grandfathered in.

Lucinda Merriweather, 100 Brunswick Drive, Tyrone Georgia, addressed the Planning Commission about her concerns about the health, welfare and safety of the people of Tyrone in regards to the proposed gun shop. Ms. Merriweather asked the Planning Commission if an environmental study was done in regards to the proposed gun range. Ms. Merriweather stated that the NRA Guide lines stated that an environmental analysis including what may or may not occur once the range is built should be done prior to a gun range being built. Mr. Merriweather is concerned over the risk of lead poisoning from users of the gun range and individual users who become covered with led dust from shooting activities there is a risk to non-users through clothing and skin. The proposed location is right next to Partners Pizza and is very concerned over the location. It is her hope and prayer for a win-win for the community and business owner. Mr. Merriweather finished her comments with "Trust me Chief someone will get hurt eventually the guns will go off and someone will get hurt"

Connie Redd, 132 Keswick Manor Drive, Tyrone, Georgia, stated that when she first heard of this she was excited she is NRA all the way. Ms. Redd did not know it was going to be built 800 feet from her daughter's room. She believes that the range is self-contained and it is a very state of the art range and everything there will be done the way it should be. Ms. Redd explained that she has done over 60 hours of research on this subject for the last two weeks and has tried to look at this from an unbiased place. Ms. Redd stated that there is a zoning for gun shops just not this zoning. Ms. Redd feels that there are still a lot of risk factors such as negligent discharges, lead contamination. In ten years are the precautions being taken now, will they still be enough and there is also a perception that the location will devalue the surrounding homes. Ms. Redd explained that she was told that a home 600 feet from the gun range had a buyer and the buyer backed out due to the gun range location.

Larry Hall, 12 New Castle Lane, Tyrone Georgia, explained that he shared same concerns over the devaluing of the homes in the area. Mr. Hall stated that even if the gun shop brings in more revenue the devaluation of homes in the area will cause the town to lose money. Mr. Hall asked the Planning Commission if the gun shop was in their backyard would they still approve it.

Lillian Wimbush, 201 Wynfield Drive, Tyrone Georgia, stated that she feels badly for what this issue has done to the community and everyone wants what is best for the community and as a grandmother homeowner and real estate agent she feels this is a bad decision to have the gun range located at this location. Ms. Wimbush explained that she had a client that was interested in a property on Keswick Manor and as a real estate agent she was obligated to tell the client about the gun range and the client decided to wait to see the results of the gun range before she would look at the house. Ms. Wimbush stated that she was concerned over the risk of the lead on the children and closed with if this is allowed everyone will feel the negative impact of this establishment.

Marcia Dunscomb, 200 Chaparral Trace Tyrone, Georgia, stated that she loves living in the town of Tyrone, but was very disturbed in the cavalier manor that this issue was passed without input from the citizens. Ms. Dunscomb explained that she has a great deal of concerns and that it will not have an impact on her home value in South Fork, but what effects one area of Tyrone will affect the whole town. Ms. Dunscomb is concerned about the home values going down due to the gun range. Ms. Dunscomb requested that another location be found for the gun range.

Ann West, 520 Westbourne Drive Tyrone, Georgia, stated that in October or November she was introduced to Mr. Shenkle and asked him about the gun range and he told her that he knew nothing about it. Ms. West now feels that it is very difficult to trust what is being done behind closed doors and questioned Mr. Shenkle's integrity.

Steve Lewis, 111 Westmont Way Tyrone, Georgia, stated that he is usually on the other side of this. Mr. Lewis stated that he runs into problems when proposing development in other jurisdictions from time to time and on controversial applications what the Planning Commission usually does is typically recommends that the applicant arranges a neighborhood association meeting to get feedback from the community. Mr. Lewis was shocked that the gun shop was approved without any input from the community and typically speaking at a neighborhood meeting could be held where the builder and the community would speak and would be an opportunity where things could be discussed to make this a workable situation. Mr. Lewis feels that a gun range is not the best use for this property and the citizens that are here tonight are prepared to stop this happening to include litigation.

Staff Comments

None

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Jefferson asked if Renee was getting quotes on cutting down the tree on Senoia Road. Mr. Perkins explained that this would be done in the next budget year since quotes are only good for 60 days. Commissioner Jefferson asked if the town can have an arborist look at the trees and get an answer. Commissioner Sanak informed Mr. Perkins know that the county has an arborist.

Adjournment

Commission Jefferson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45. Commissioner Sanak seconded the motion; approved 3-0