

City of Stockbridge

Mission: To provide visionary leadership and superior municipal services that enhance the quality of life for citizens while creating a welcoming business atmosphere focused on sustainability and expansion of tourism and cultural events.



ACTION MINUTES **PLANNING COMMISSION**

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS

Askia Abdullah, Chairperson
Shirley Wallace, Vice Chair
Stanley Dumas
Kathleen Nelson
Harold Thibodeaux
Lawrence Wilbon

ADMINISTRATION

Camilla Moore, Asst. City Manager /
Development Services
Linda Logan, Senior Planner / PC Sect'y
Melinda Davis, GIS / Planning Tech.
Michael Williams, City Attorney

- I. **Call to Order** – Declared by Chairperson Abdullah at 6:37 p.m.
- II. **Invocation** – Conducted by Harold Thibodeaux.
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Participated in by everyone who was present.

IV. <u>Roll Call</u> – Taken by Linda Logan:	Present	Absent
Askia Abdullah	___X___	_____
Stanley Dumas	___X___	_____
Kathleen Nelson	_____	___X___
Shirley Wallace	___X___	_____
Harold Thibodeaux	___X___	_____
Lawrence Wilbon	_____	___X___

With four of the six members being present, a quorum was achieved.

- V. **Adoption of the Agenda** – A motion to adopt the Agenda was made by Shirley Wallace and seconded by Harold Thibodeaux, who wanted to add to “New Business” a discussion of the Planning Commission’s meeting attendance policy. The amendment was adopted unanimously.
- VI. **Approval of Action Minutes -- June 27, 2019 Action Minutes**. A motion to approve the Action Minutes from the last Planning Commission meeting was made by Stanley Dumas and seconded by Harold Thibodeaux. The Action Minutes were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Pictures of Planning Commission Members --** A professional photographer was present. He took both group pictures and individual pictures of the current Planning Commission Members, as well as the City’s Planning and Zoning staff.
2. **Discussion of the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Process** – Presented by Camilla Moore. She stated that a retreat is being scheduled for the purpose of bringing together the City’s planning and zoning officials to discuss the steps that are anticipated to be involved in the process for rewriting the City’s Zoning Ordinance. The goal of the retreat is to create a sense of direction for what the City’s new Zoning Ordinance will look like. Retreat participants will include the Planning Commission Members, the City’s Planning and Zoning staff, the City Attorney, the City Manager, a planning consultant, and someone from the University of Georgia’s Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

The retreat is scheduled to take place at Chateau Elan in Braselton, Georgia from September 12 to 14, 2019. Retreat participants will leave Stockbridge around Noon on Thursday, stay overnight at Chateau Elan on Thursday and Friday nights, then return to Stockbridge on Saturday afternoon.

3. **Discussion of a New Planning Commission Attendance Policy** – Led by Chairperson Abdullah, who stated the need for adopting an attendance policy for the Planning Commission in view of the fact that there have been some notable absences by Planning Commission Members. Often, when those absences have occurred, neither the City staff nor another Planning Commission Member has been notified prior to the meeting. This practice can jeopardize the ability of a Planning Commission to achieve the required quorum for conducting the meeting and carrying out the Planning Commission’s business.

Several possibilities were discussed for the adoption of a new attendance policy. The Members who were in attendance at tonight’s meeting tentatively agreed that a new policy should be adopted which would stipulate that if a Member missed two consecutive Planning Commission meetings, plus one more meeting sometime during the year (for a total of three meetings during the year), then that Member would no longer be allowed to continue service as a Planning Commission Member. Exceptions would be made for approved absences, such as for medical reasons, a death in the family, etc.

Chairperson Abdullah said that he would draft an e-mail message to send to all Members with the proposed language for a new policy. Stanley Dumas made a motion to adopt this plan of action, and Harold Thibodeaux seconded the motion. Then a unanimous motion to adopt this plan of action was approved.

STAFF COMMENTS –None.

BOARD COMMENTS – None.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Shirley Wallace, seconded by Stanley Dumas, and approved unanimously. Chairperson Abdullah adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.