



## **MINUTES OF THE PLANNING BOARD**

**June 14, 2022**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Paul Ritz, Vice Chairperson Larson, Board Member Grundhoefer, Board Member Van Hoose, Board Member Powell, Board Member Villegas

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Board Member Sampson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon, Historic Preservation Planner Harding, Assistant City Attorney Lindsay, Help Desk Technician Russo, Deputy City Administrator Forte, Building Official Bilby, Parks and Recreation Director Stills, Administrative Assistant Carlton, Executive Assistant Chwastyk, City Arborist Stultz

**STAFF VIRTUAL:** Senior Planner Statler, Development Services Director Morris

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Margaret Hostetter, Sherri Myers, Carlton Charles, Barbara Charles, Neil Tucker

### **AGENDA:**

- Quorum/Call to Order
- Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 12, 2022
- **New Business:**
  - Proposed Amendment to the Tree Ordinance
  - Request for Vacation of Right-of-Way – 400 Block E. Yonge Street
  - Request for Preliminary Plat Approval – Stillman Subdivision
  - Open Forum
  - Discussion
  - Adjournment

### **Call to Order / Quorum Present**

Chairperson Paul Ritz called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm with a quorum present and explained the procedures of the Board meeting including requirements for audience participation.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes - Board Member Larson made a motion to approve the April 12, 2022 minutes, seconded by Board Member Powell, and it carried 6:0.**

**New Business –**

**Proposed Amendment to Section 12-6-4(4) – Landscape and Tree Protection (Notice) Of The Code Of The City of Pensacola**

Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon introduced the item. Chairperson Paul Ritz read the sentence being added to the language. Board Members Grundhoefer and Powell discussed the purpose of the change. Board Member Villegas stated Council Member Myers felt additional language was necessary. Board Member Villegas questioned why there are only two weeks for the posting of the sign. Chairperson Paul Ritz stated that was a separate discussion. Chairperson Paul Ritz introduced Margaret Hostetter to speak. Margaret Hostetter stated that there is confusion regarding notices and sign placement and feels the timing of the notice is ineffective and not enough time is given for a reaction or interaction. Margaret Hostetter concluded by asking Building Official Bilby to explain how this language will change the procedure that has been in effect for notice made to Council Members and to the public through signs. Chairperson Paul Ritz introduced Councilwoman Sherri Myers. Councilwoman Myers stated she is looking to the Planning Board to accomplish the intent of the language that was sent to the Planning Board. Councilwoman Myers gave the example of Sake Café. Councilwoman Myers felt they were a good example of being given ample notice and willingness to preserve trees. Chairperson Paul Ritz wanted clarification from Councilwoman Myers if she wanted the language to change regarding the notice to Council Members as well as the public. Councilwoman Myers stated she would like more opportunity given to the public to have input. Chairperson Paul Ritz stated that prior to approval, in his interpretation, that no approval can be made until that notification period has been completed. Chairperson Paul Ritz asked Assistant City Attorney Lindsay if the Planning Board Members could add or edit the language. Assistant City Attorney Lindsay stated the Board Members can make modifications in their determination. Chairperson Paul Ritz suggested the Board come up with a milestone for notification. Chairperson Paul Ritz suggested a milestone for notification, and a milestone for the sign placement. Board Member Villegas suggested a longer time for sign placement. Chairperson Paul Ritz asked Building Official Bilby if he knew of a legislative time for the sign to be placed. Building Official Bilby stated that the placement of the sign is for two weeks prior to the permit issuance. Chairperson Paul Ritz, Board Member Powell, and Board Member Villegas discussed the time frame for placement of the sign as well as the color of the sign. Chairperson Paul Ritz stated that the direction of the Board is to edit the language beyond what was given them. Board Member Van Hoose suggested there be a 30-day time frame for the sign. Board Member Van Hoose also stated that the word approval needs to be clarified for the council person. Chairperson Paul Ritz asked the Board if they wanted to add a milestone for the notification to the City Council Members. Board Member Villegas proposed the notification be sent immediately upon receiving the plans and further discussion was had. Chairperson Paul Ritz clarified the wording with Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon. Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon read the proposed amendments into the record: 1) At such time a tree or landscape plan has been deemed compliant by the designated city arborist, staff shall notify the City Council member for that district. 2) Every sign shall be black lettering on a white background. 3) the sign shall be posted thirty (30) days prior to permit issuance. Board Member Grundhoefer asked Building Official Bilby for clarification of the review process and time frame of plan reviews. Board Member Grundhoefer suggested that the plan review be completed before the notification is given. Board Member Villegas asked if notification should be given upon examination as Board Member

Grundhoefer suggested. Consensus was reached and Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon confirmed the wording to be that at such time a tree and landscape plan has been deemed compliant by the City's designated Arborist, the staff shall notify the City's councilperson. The Board Members agreed to a 30-day time period for the placement of the sign instead of two weeks and that the sign have black lettering with a white background. **Board member Villegas made a motion to approve, seconded by Board Member Powell, and it carried 6:0.**

#### **Request for Vacation of Right-Of-Way - 400 Block E. Yonge Street**

Deputy City Administrator Forte discussed an upcoming project at Magee Field. Deputy City Administrator provided clarification as to why a Vacation of Right-Of-Way would benefit Parks & Recreation and the City. To appropriate funding, it would need to be under one parcel. Deputy City Administrator Forte clarified that vacating the Yonge Street Right-Of-Way would allow the city owned parcel to the South of Yonge Street to be incorporated into Magee Field. Board Member Grundhoefer asked if Yonge Street was already vacated, Deputy City Administrator Forte stated it was not. Deputy City Administrator Forte stated the city would maintain a utility easement after the Vacation of Right-Of-Way. Carlton Charles would like the parking problem at Magee Field to be addressed, Deputy City Administrator Forte is aware of the problem and the city is working to address it. **Vice Chairperson Larson made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Board member Grundhoefer, and it carried 6:0.**

#### **Request for Preliminary Plat Approval – Stillman Subdivision**

Chairperson Paul Ritz asked city staff if all the lots in the purposed subdivision met all the requirements of R-1A, Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon answered yes. Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon reminded the board members that this is a preliminary plat approval. Neil Tucker spoke on behalf of Geci & Associates. Chairperson Paul Ritz noted the fire department had no issue with the short dead end road configuration. Neil Tucker stated the comments from the fire department came because of early submission to the Engineering Department. Board Member Grundhoefer asked if they were putting in a cul-de-sac, Neil Tucker stated it's not required because of the length. Board Member Villegas asked for the requirements for runoff when a development is adjacent to a water way and if the subdivision would be clear cut. Neil Tucker stated they would be clearing the Right-Of-Way and stormwater pond. Board Member Grundhoefer asked if easements were for drainage, Neil Tucker answered yes. Board Member Grundhoefer asked if the developer was leaning towards townhomes or single-family dwellings, Neil Tucker answered townhomes. **Board Member Powell made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Board member Grundhoefer, and it carried 6:0.**

**Open Forum – none**

**Discussion –** Board Member Grundhoefer asked about the previous project on Palafox,

Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon stated the project was put on hold. Discussion ensued regarding the time frame for approval for projects coming back before the Board. Board Member Grundhoefer inquired about the Gregory Street project, formerly known as Franco's, Assistant Planning & Zoning Manager Cannon provided further information regarding the project.

**Adjournment** – With no further business, the Board adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia Cannon, AICP  
Assistant Planning Director  
Secretary of the Board