

FREDERICK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
Minutes of Meeting for  
June 24 2020  
*Virtual Workshop*

See video for further meeting details: <http://frederickcountymd.gov/5956/Video-Archives>

Members Present: Carole Sepe, Chair; Sharon Suarez, Vice-Chair; Sam Tressler, Secretary; Bob White; Craig Hicks; Joel Rensberger

Members Absent: Terry Bowie

Staff Present: Steve Horn, Division Director; Kim Golden Brandt, Livable Frederick Planning & Design Director; Mike Wilkins, Development Review Director; Kathy Mitchell, Senior Assistant County Attorney; and Pattie Wolfgang, Administrative Specialist

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Ms. Suarez mentioned that the Frederick County review of the Moderately Priced Dwelling Units (MPDU) Ordinance is proceeding. At a kick-off meeting, teams were established to explore improving on the current MPDU ordinance.

Mr. Rensberger welcomed Mr. Michael Sowell to the Planning Commission. Mr. Sowell will be filling the vacancy left by Mr. White as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**3. AGENCY COMMENTS / AGENDA BRIEFING**

Mr. Wilkins briefed the Commission on the upcoming July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. There will be four Development Review items, including the Rutters project that was continued from the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. There will also be three legislative items; a Forest Resource Ordinance bill that is being discussed in today's workshop; a Zoning Ordinance bill, and a bill to amend the Zoning Ordinance on Accessory Dwelling Units that was recently introduced by the County Council. He noted that it again will be a virtual meeting, and virtual public input software will be utilized for any citizen who wishes to participate on any particular agenda item. One can go to the Division of Planning and Permitting's website to link to the specific meeting and choose from several options of participation.

Mr. Horn welcomed Mr. Sowell to the Planning Commission, and again extended appreciation to Mr. White for his 26 years of service to the County. He added that a more formal thank you would take place when the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and gatherings can once again resume.

**4. LEGISLATIVE BILLS**

*Bill 20-08* – Discussion of a bill to propose amendments to Chapter 1-21 of the Frederick County Code (Forest Resource) to increase forest conservation efforts.

*Bill 20-07* – Discussion of a bill to propose amendments to multiple sections of Chapter 1-19 of the Frederick County Code (Zoning Ordinance) to update and clarify transportation, environmental resource protection, and historic preservation criteria on rezoning requests.

Ms. Mitchell explained that in the legislative process, the Planning Commission basically has an advisory role.

Discussion followed, focusing on examining the purposes of the bills and the reason they were introduced; asking questions of staff, so that at the public hearing, there will be more time to focus on public input.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm  
Respectfully Submitted,



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Carole Sepe, Chair

08/19/20

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Date