



KNIGHTDALE OLD TOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

October 13, 2016

The Knightdale Old Town Advisory Committee met at 7:00 p.m. at the Knightdale Chamber of Commerce Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Billy Wilder, Donald Joyner, Brandon McLean, Bernice Dupree, Mike Marsh

LURB MEMBER LIAISON PRESENT: No One

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: No One

ABSENT: No One

Staff Members Present: Jason Brown, Senior Planner Long Range; Jennifer Currin, Assistant Development Services Director; Donna Tierney, Planning Technician

Meeting called to order by Chairman Wilder at 7:00 p.m.

ITEM I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

...Motion by Mr. Joyner to approve the minutes of September 8, 2016. Motion seconded by Mr. Marsh and carried unanimously.

ITEM II. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ITEM III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Old Town Gateway Signage/Harper Property Development

Assistant Development Services Director Jennifer Currin explained that when the 2011 Comprehensive Plan was approved, it included a Gateway Design District Overlay that included priority target areas throughout town, including entrances to Old Town. In order to receive bonus points to meet the Water Allocation Policy, the applicants of the Robertson Street PRD rezoning have requested to construct gateway landscaping or a structure/signage subject to comprehensive plan consistency and Town Council approval. Ms. Currin further explained the Town wants to identify how the signage should look and ensure they are compatible with the upcoming wayfinding signs.

Committee members discussed locations, height, materials, dedication of right of way, and maintenance. Members agreed they all were in favor of the Lynchburg example and added they would like to see signage illuminated on major roads.

B. Old Town Speed Limits

Mr. Brown stated that Chief Capps is going to request speed limits are reduced on Robertson Street and Fayetteville Street, mainly around Knightdale Elementary. The police department has spent many man hours patrolling the area, while issuing 200 citations and three dozen warnings in last 12 months. Chief Capps' proposal will be to reduce the speed limit to 25 mph as soon as you enter town limits.

Mr. Joyner voiced his concern that Smithfield Road generates more traffic and should also have a reduced speed limit. Mr. Brown explained that NCDOT street classification levels determine posted speed limits but he will pass Mr. Joyner's concern along to Chief Capps.

Mr. McLean added the Town should push out an announcement or campaign when the speed limits are reduced so that more people are aware speeding is an issue. Mr. Brown will pass along the idea to the Town's Public Information Officer.

...Motion by Ms. Dupree to support the proposed speed limit reduction. Motion seconded by Mr. McLean and carried unanimously.

Chairman Wilder voiced his opinion that additional speed limit signs are needed since many roads have long stretches where the speed limit is unknown.

C. Front Yard Parking & Town Code Amendment

Senior Planner Jason Brown explained that the Planning and Engineering Committee recently inquired if staff would investigate other ways to enforce front yard parking that do not create as many unintentional consequences. Staff will also look into the nuisance code to address such issues as storing indoor furniture outside.

Additionally, staff will look into outdated Town Code sections; edit the house moving ordinance and street addressing program, and look at the nuisance section. Ordinances of peer communities will be researched as part of the process.

...Motion by Ms. Dupree to pursue the proposed nuisance code edits and enforcement. Motion seconded by Mr. McLean and carried unanimously.

ITEM IV.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Locally Administered Projects Program Submittal

Mr. Brown updated members that staff is still pursuing the submittal of the Mingo Creek Trail Greenway Connector project, which will link the Mingo Creek greenway to the Knightdale Station Park greenway and Neuse River Trail. Staff will follow the grants policy through Town Council, and will receive a score in January.

B. Railroad Crossings/John Rex Endowment Grant Update

Mr. Brown stated that staff has not seen revised plans since last October. The John Rex Endowment Grant cycle will run out by the time DOT starts the work, so the sidewalk improvements are no longer being considered. Staff is working on proposing an alternative project to be funded that will create pedestrian connections to fresh food at the farmers market.

Chairman Wilder commented he heard that the farmers market might move from Saturdays to Thursdays. He and Mr. McLean agree that associating the farmers market with Food Truck Thursday will not be beneficial.

ITEM V. MEMBER INQUIRIES/REPORTS

A. Staff Follow-Up on Previous Month's Inquiries

None at this time.

B. New Inquiries/Reports

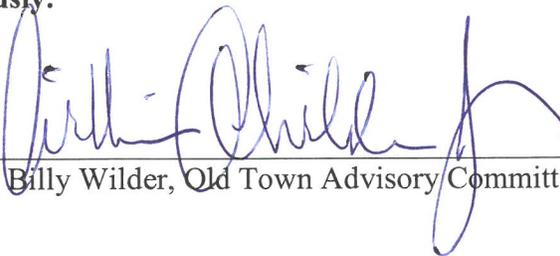
Chairman Wilder announced there are two dead trees near the shelters in Harper Park that need to be removed. The committee generally discussed responsibility of cleaning up various fallen trees around town.

...Motion by Chairman Wilder to commend the Police and Fire Departments for their efforts during Hurricane Matthew. Seconded by Ms. Dupree and carried unanimously.

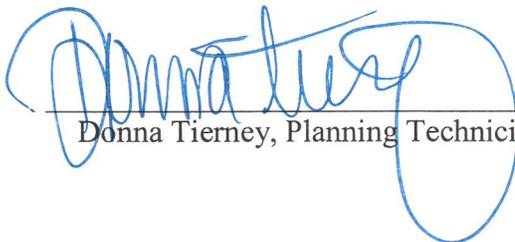
Members inquired about an afterhours Public Works number to report various items like trees down.

ITEM VI. ADJOURNMENT

...Motion by Mr. Joyner to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Motion seconded by Ms. Dupree and carried unanimously.



Billy Wilder, Old Town Advisory Committee Chairman



Donna Tierney, Planning Technician