

APPROVED

Oxford Planning Commission
Minutes for Meeting on December 11, 2012

Attendance: Patsy Burke, Jackie Ellis, Erik Oliver, Ron Manson, David Eady (Council Liaison)
Guests: Bob Schwartz (City Manager) and Margaret Dugan (Oxford College)

Chairman Erik Oliver opened the meeting at 7:02 PM.

Old Business:

1. The November 13, 2012 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Commission alerted City Manager Bob Schwarz to Curtis Jackson's variance request to the County and gave background/context on why that property and others in Oxford are unincorporated islands.
3. Chairman Oliver reported that he had followed up with the person representing the Gregory family's inquiry about timber harvesting and conveyed the Commission's preference that any timber harvesting be selective, maintaining some level of buffer, or that the property owners approach the City or College about purchasing the property in lieu of harvesting.
4. The Council will discuss Commission membership at its next work session and appoint new members in January.
5. City Manager Bob Schwarz said he will follow up on the issue of unapproved and non-conforming signs in the city road corridors placed there by Oxford College. The three mentioned are the East Village sign on Haygood Street, the Conferencing and Special Events sign on Hammill Street, and the directory sign on Haygood Street near Few/Tarbutton Hall.
6. The Commission agreed there is no new action for it take on the rezoning request by the College for the Elizer property unless so directed by the Council or unless the proposal is resubmitted as a different request. Ron Manson reported that the Wentworth Subdivision Home Owners' Association expressed support for rezoning to Agricultural.

New Business:

1. Councilman Eady reported that the City has hired Peter Drey, a landscape architect, to lead a design process for Whatcoat Street. Eady said the work will be done in close consultation with the College, and the public will have ample opportunity to give input and review design options. Mr. Eady also talked briefly about the planned pedestrian bridge over I-20 and extending the sidewalk on the West side of Emory Street from the bridge to the town center area.
2. Margaret Dugan asked if the parking around Allen Memorial Church is within the city-owned road corridors. She was informed that, yes, the parking spots along Whatcoat, Pierce, and Asbury Streets are all on public land.
3. On behalf of the Commission, Patsy Burke thanked Erik Oliver and Jackie Ellis for their service. Councilman Eady did the same on behalf of the City Council.

Chairman Oliver adjourned the meeting at 7:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Burke, Secretary