

PLAN COMMISSION MINUTES

March 19, 2012
5:30 P.M.

Meeting Rooms D&E
City-County Government Center

160 South Macy Street
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

OPENING CEREMONIES

ROLL CALL: Present - Dave Erickson
Jordan Skiff
Jeffrey Quast
Paul Smedberg
Thomas Sugars

Absent - Brent Schumacher (excused)
Rob Vande Zande (excused)

Administrative Staff - Joellyn Dahlin, Principal Planner

Chairman Smedberg declared a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 13, 2012

Motion made by Commissioner Skiff to approve the February 13, 2012 minutes of the Plan Commission as presented.

Seconded by Commissioner Quast.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye - Erickson, Quast, Skiff,
Smedberg, Sugars

Nay - None

Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

ZONING CODE AMENDMENT

Effect: Allow the keeping of chickens in residential neighborhoods.

Initiator: Lori Amend, 583 Morris Street

Chairman Smedberg declared the Public Hearing open.

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Appeared in Support and to Ask/Answer Questions:

Lori Amend, 583 Morris St., Fond du Lac
Jeannie Wachs, 583 Morris St., Fond du Lac
Diane Beck, Leonard Dr., Fond du Lac
Brenda Gorr, 134 S. Hickory St., Fond du Lac
Betsy Urven, 237 E. 11th St., Fond du Lac
Tony Vasquez, 565 Morris St., Fond du Lac
Jim Hefter, 580 Lake St., Fond du Lac
Amy Dehler, 472 Portage St., Fond du Lac

As Interest May Appear:

Jeffery Reese, 43 ½ W 12th St., Fond du Lac

Email correspondence from Commissioner VandeZande in opposition to the proposed code amendment was read into record by Chairman Smedberg.

With no further appearances, Chairman Smedberg declared the Public Hearing closed.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Sugars voiced support for the ordinance, indicating that chickens are low impact in their environment and the noise is minimal.

Commissioner Quast questioned that the proposed regulations would apply to all residential districts.

Commissioner Skiff acknowledged the good intentions of persons attending the Plan Commission meeting; however, his concern is for persons who are not committed to following the rules.

Chairman Smedberg also acknowledged the good intentions of persons in attendance and echoed Commissioner Skiff's concern for problems caused by persons who are not committed to following the rules. Additionally, he is concerned that property owners with substandard lots would be denied a privilege given to others. Mr. Smedberg also commented that gaining approval for chickens from a neighbor is problematic because circumstances change where an approving neighbor would move and the presence of chickens could potentially affect the marketability of that person's property.

Commissioner Erickson commented that he was raised on a chicken farm that had 2,500 chickens and believes chickens are farm animals that belong on a farm outside of the city limits. Mr.

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Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

SUE L. STRANDS
CITY CLERK

SS/maa

DRAFT