

REGULAR NORWALK PLANNING AND ZONING MEETING 8-22-2016

Call to order

The Regular Meeting of the Norwalk Planning and Zoning Commission was held at the Norwalk City Hall, 705 North Avenue, Monday, August 22, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by acting Chairperson Judy McConnell. Those present at roll call were, Judy McConnell, John Fraser, Elizabeth Thompson, and Jim Huse. Absent: Brandon Foldes, Donna Grant.

Present was City Council liaison Stephanie Riva.

Staff present included: Wade Wagoner, Planning & Economic Development Director and Shelley Stravers, Development Services Assistant.

Approval of Agenda – 16-51

Motion by Thompson and seconded by Huse to approve the agenda as presented. Approved 4-0.

Approval of Minutes – 16-52

Motion by Fraser and seconded by Thompson to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2016 meeting. Approved 4-0.

Welcome of Guests

Acting Chairperson McConnell welcomed guests present. With no one wishing to speak, the business portion of the meeting was opened.

New Business

Consideration of a zoning amendment to add criteria for an enclosure for urban chickens as a permitted accessory use in the R-1 Single Family zoning district – 16-53

Wagoner reported at the August 4, 2016 meeting the City Council approved an ordinance amending the City Code to allow for the keeping of urban chickens. Part of that ordinance stated that a property owner keeping chickens must have an enclosure that meets the standards set forth in the zoning ordinance. This amendment to the zoning ordinance would set those standards. The standards would apply to the R-1 district and RE-1 district.

Grant and Foldes arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Wagoner said the proposed changes to Section 17.10.030.3 Permitted Accessory Uses are as follows:

K. The keeping of chickens in accordance with City Code Chapter 55.16 Urban Chickens. The necessary chicken enclosure is also allowed, provided the following standards are met:

1. The enclosure is covered and fully enclosed.
2. The enclosure shall have a latch mechanism or lock to ensure that access to the enclosure remains secure.
3. The enclosure provides a minimum of five (5) square feet per chicken.
4. The enclosure shall have a minimum height of four (4) feet.
5. The enclosure shall be located inside a fenced area that provides a minimum of 10 square feet per chicken, excluding the square footage of the enclosure. The fence shall have a height of six (6) feet.
6. The enclosure shall not be located closer than 25' to any principal structure on an adjacent lot.

Public Hearing was opened by McConnell at 6:58 p.m. With no one from the public wishing to speak, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:58 p.m.

Motion by Grant and seconded by Foldes to approve the staff recommended criteria for an enclosure for urban chickens as a permitted accessory use in the R-1 Single Family zoning district with the following additions:

- *No chickens shall be allowed to run at large.*
- *No chicken wire or mesh material shall be allowed for fences. All fences must be an allowable fencing material in the Zoning Ordinance.*
- *Enclosure shall be located at least 150' from any dwelling.*

Approved 6-0.

Discussion on Chapter 7 of Suburban Nation

Wagoner discussed Chapter 7 of the book. This chapter went over the adverse effects suburbs have on people. Cul-de-sac kids who are dependent on adults to provide transportation everywhere and don't allow them to practice becoming adults; soccer moms who are burdened with providing the transportation for the children at the expense of their own career goals; bored teenagers who are isolated and do not have the ordinary challenges of maturing and gaining a sense of self; stranded elderly that may not have a car and it is nearly impossible for them to get around without being dependent on others; weary commuters who have to spend more time away from their families while commuting; bankrupt municipalities due to the inefficiency in providing services to residents in an automobile-dependent suburb; and lastly the immobile poor who have less access to reliable transportation to get them to jobs.

Staff Development Update

Wagoner discussed master park plan, cost of equipment and cost to maintain the parks. Thompson asked if splash pad could be a part of that discussion.

Wagoner reviewed the July monthly report for his department which went over a changeable art program and a new City seal via an art contest, which would include students at the school. Departmental numbers were reviewed and the building department numbers continue to go up as the trend continues.

Future Business Items

Trail Plat Update and SubArea 1 Master Plan & Future Land Use Plan

Wagoner noted that Parris put together a really good map that shows where trails should be and then a second sheet that discussing how we can fund them. A draft of this should be available in September or October.

Legacy Plat 20

This is expected to come very soon.

R-F District Rezoning

Need to get a hearing set and notify residents in the district.

Next meeting Date – September 12, 2016.

Adjournment – 16-54

Motion by Huse and seconded by Fraser to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 P.M. Approved 6-0.

Judy McConnell, Vice Chairperson

Wade Wagoner, Planning & Economic
Development Director