

FARMERSVILLE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES  
June 16, 2014

The Farmersville Citizens Advisory Committee met in special session on May 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the City of Farmersville Council Chambers with the following members present: Mark Vincent, Craig Overstreet, Todd Rolen and Tom Waitschies. Commission members absent were Patti Ford, Bryce Thompson and Charles Casada. Staff members present was City Manager Ben White, City Attorney Alan Lathrom and City Secretary Edie Sims. Council Liaison John Klostermann was present.

CALL TO ORDER AND RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS/VISITORS

Chairman Waitschies called the meeting to order at 7:33pm. Edie Sims called roll and announced that a quorum was present.

**Item II – A) CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND REVIEW PLANNING-RELATED ISSUES AND THE CITY’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND THE SUBMISSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL REGARDING SUCH DISCUSSIONS**

Chairman Waitschies requested City Manager Ben White to proceed with this topic. Mr. White stated the review planning of the Comprehensive Plan is for grant opportunities as well as offering a living, healthy plan to utilize and guide the City’s future. The Comprehensive Plan has not been embellished and what will be discussed is the planning to help us grow to the future. Mr. White opted to discuss Chapter 6 of the Comprehensive Plan regarding Parks and Open Space.

Under the Parks Goals 1.1, Mr. White stated the Master Trail Plan for Collin County is updated annually. The City of Farmersville’s trail concept is integrated into Collin County’s Master Trail Plan. The strategy is to continue working with Collin County’s initiatives regarding the Trail Plan as well as North Central Texas Council of Governments.

Strategy 1.2 regards connectors between urbanized and rural areas. Presently the City of Farmersville does not have a great connection to the parks south of town. Plans are being made to connect our trail system. Currently the City does not have right-of-way access for a trail south of town. When the City installs an interceptor for the sewer lines, the right-of-way will be a nice trail.

Strategy 1.3 regarding coordinating the Park and Trail System Plan with the City’s land use plan, zoning and future land use plan. Mr. White indicated that nothing has been done related to this project and definitely needs attention.

To avoid development in environmentally sensitive areas, the City will need to identify those areas first as discussed in Strategy 1.4. Once identified, then regulations will need to be implemented on how to treat the sensitive areas.

Under the Parks Goals 2, establishing standards for private development to provide onsite open space and trails could have an effect on Lakehaven MUD. Land is typically dedicated with a new project, but this has not been accomplished to ensure linkages are provided as development occurs.

Strategy 2.2 discusses establishing a policy for trail systems in rural areas of town to include working with property owners to identify potential locations of trails and open space as well as trail alignments and standards. This strategy will coincide with

the interceptor line for the sewer line and with Collin County Open Space around Lake Lavon. This item will become more prevalent as construction plans are developed for the interceptor sewer line.

Strategy 2.3 needs a program developed to work with private owned property where development is not likely to occur.

Mr. White stated Strategy 2.4 which is exploration of a wide range of funding mechanisms and partners to implement park, open space and trail plans is being investigated almost daily. City Attorney Alan Lathrom indicated the City's Subdivision Ordinance requires a new developer to allow an area relative to 5% of the area with 5 lots or more dedicated to a park or open space. The City does not have a provision for a fee in lieu of park dedication.

Finally under Parks Goals, Strategies and Actions, Goal 3 requires the City to coordinate with the Northeast Texas Trail Coalition. This item is handled very well as our Mayor coordinates with the NETT heavily.

In conclusion, Mr. White wanted to offer a plan he has comprised for the Spain Athletic Complex. He hopes to recommend the upgrades to the Farmersville Community Development Corporation for funding.

**Item III) ADJOURNMENT**

Todd Rolen motioned to adjourn with Mark Vincent seconding the motion. The Advisory Committee adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Patti Ford, Secretary

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Tom Waitschies, Chairman