

THE PLAN COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JULY 24, 2013 – 7:00 P.M.

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Plan Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. A quorum was present. Teresa Badillo, Patricia Letarte, Chairman James Caporusso, Carla Argueta, Giuliano Petrucci, William Thorn, Patrick Ainsworth (Planner for the Department of Community Development), John Schneider (Director of Community Development), Matt Welch (Village Attorney), Farrah Ansari (Community Development Intern) and Lisa Manzo (Secretary). All members were present.
3. Member Letarte made a motion to accept the amended minutes of June 26, 2013 as presented. Member Argueta seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion carried.
4. Public Comment: None.
5. New Business: Discussion on Potential Noise Ordinance.

The members discussed the potential noise ordinance draft that was distributed to them. They were unanimous in that they favored using Maywood's Noise Ordinance as a template. Mr. Ainsworth stated that this Ordinance, once drafted will go to the Police Department to be included in their budget so that the officers can enforce this Ordinance. They don't plan to use additional man power to enforce this section of the code, once it is adopted.

The members discussed various fines and penalties if constituents fail to uphold the Ordinance. Matt Welch discussed several different penalties, including a citation that would result in a fine of \$500 per day per offense.

The members discussed the measuring of sound. They continued that the officer would have a sound meter to measure the level of noise and the noise chart would be stipulated in the Ordinance.

The members asked how the noise of a barking dog would measure on such a meter. They also discussed the hour limitations to such noises.

The members discussed construction hours within the Village. They discussed when contractors and residents would be able to begin work and the hours involved.

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6. New Business: Discussion on Fowl in certain Zoning Districts.

Farrah Ansari discussed her research on several communities surrounding Franklin Park's interest in allowing fowl on residential private property. Some towns polled included Elmwood Park, Melrose Park, Broadview, Wood Dale, Bensenville, Addison, Schiller Park, Northlake, Elmhurst, Elk Grove Village, Oak Park, Downers Grove, and Naperville.

Chairman Caporusso stated that the members need to research and think about this topic, weigh out the pros, the cons and the benefits to having fowl and meet back and continue discussion on this to see what direction the Village would like to pursue.

Member Letarte discussed this topic and stated that it is her opinion that the only fowl be allowed on property are the ones that only lay eggs. The members questioned the practice and limitations to slaughtering fowl.

The members discussed regulations and registration of fowl. Will permits be required to erect chicken coups and the processes regarding that.

Mr. Schneider discussed this issue with the members and that many Villages are allowing this at the present time. He further stated that the members should research fowl on line. He suggested the website of www.backyardchicken.com. There was also discussion regarding pigeons and the registration involved with that. It was unanimous that this topic be brought back to the commission members at the next scheduled meeting.

7. New Business: Discussion on miscellaneous Village Projects related to Planning.

Mr. Schneider discussed the electric parking meters that are being planned for the Metra station parking lot. He continued that plans have been finalized to have patrons for the park district pool park in the American Legion Hall parking lot.

Mr. Schneider discussed the progress with the Village and CMAP and also the progression with the building of the Taft Avenue Bridge connecting businesses and the patrons' right up to O'Hare Airport. He stated that they are in stage 2 of engineering design. Mr. Schneider and the Plan Commission members discussed the Village's CMAP application to update the Village's Comprehensive Plan.

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Mr. Schneider discussed that the Village is planning to go out for an “RFP” to hire a consultant for a new and updated Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Schneider discussed that there will be an end of the summer festival on downtown Franklin Avenue on August 29, 2013. Some businesses will be donating to the festival that will provide entertainment. It should be a fun end of summer treat.

8. Old Business: None.

9. Member Letarte made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Plan Commission. It was seconded by Member Petrucci. The motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Manzo
Secretary