

CITY OF CHARDON PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2019

Members Present:

Andrew Blackley, Vice-Chairman
Kenneth Miller, Chairman

Hannah Sekas
Mary Jo Stark

Dean Peska

Members Absent:

Chris Grau
Al Hunziker

Also Present:

Doug Courtney, City Engineer
Jim Gillette, Law Director
David Hartt, CT Consultants
Joe Koziol, Times Courier
Nancy McArthur, Councilman
Joe Novak
Rebecca Repasky, Secretary

Randy Sharpe, City Manager
Jeff Smock, Mayor
Kevin Suttman
Steve Yaney, Community Development
Administrator

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll was called.

Mr. Miller said everyone received copies of the special joint Council minutes from the December 15, 2018 meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Blackley to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Mrs. Sekas. The vote carried 5-0. Mr. Miller said everyone received copies of the minutes from the November 19, 2018 meeting. The motion was made by Mr. Blackley to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Peska. The vote carried 5-0.

Mr. Miller reminded all that were present to sign in for the meeting. Mr. Miller explained the procedure of the meeting and swore in City staff.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

PC Case #19-011 – The Applicant, City of Chardon, has submitted “The City of Chardon Comprehensive Plan Update January 2019” for review and approval by Planning Commission.

Mr. Hartt explained the process was the same as in 2008 and included joint meetings and public forums. He said this update has no changes from the previous update with the exception of editorial and formatting changes. Mr. Hartt said Chardon continues to work towards being a complete small town. He suggested the following take-a-ways:

1. Reinforce and expand the Square as it remains a focal point to residents.
2. Bring in more diverse housing.
3. Allow flexibility in zoning districts.
4. Establish residential density that is economically effective.
5. More staffing in economic development.

Mr. Miller agreed there needs to be more flexibility in the zoning districts for the purpose of development. Mr. Miller thanked and expressed appreciation for Mr. Hartt's work. Mr. Blackley agreed with the findings and Mr. Miller's comments.

Mr. Peska made a motion to approve the Comprehensive Plan as presented. It was seconded by Mrs. Stark. Roll was called. The vote carried 5-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Yaney explained Kevin Suttman, of Seven Brothers Distillery, would like to open a distillery and tasting room at the commercial property on Cherry Avenue. He explained this request would not fit the current C-3 zoning for the building.

Mr. Suttman said it has been challenging finding a distillery location that would be a site for tourism. He would like the site to be both retail and tasting. He said the building and location on Cherry Avenue fits his needs. He explained he is waiting on the federal government to reopen because he will need a federal permit and that takes three (3) – four (4) months.

Mrs. Stark said this is a very nice proposal and idea and she is glad Mr. Sutton has chosen Chardon to move to.

Mr. Blackley agreed and said this will attract tourism and be economic development. He said this will be an ideal location for the distillery.

Mr. Miller instructed Mr. Sutton to gather all needed items to return with a formal proposal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – none

Mr. Grau made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Blackley. The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

KENNETH MILLER, CHAIRMAN

Rebecca Repasky, Secretary