

Minutes of Russell Township Zoning Commission

May 25, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. The following members were present: Mr. Murphy, Ms. Weiss Carson, Mr. Kotowski, and Mr. Warren. Mr. Snyder resigned from the Zoning Commission earlier in the day. Mr. Murphy, Vice-Chair of the Zoning Commission, served as Chair of the meeting. As Ms. Steffen had retired, there was no Zoning Secretary present at the meeting. Mr. Warren took the minutes. Also present at the meeting were the following public attendees: Mr. Dale Markowitz, Mr. Tom Sloe, Mr. James Hlavin, Ms. Shelley Chernin, Mr. Spencer Polando, Mr. Charles Butters, Mr. Tim Hegedus and Ms. Kelly Hegedus.

Mr. Murphy called for a hearing on proposed amendment 2016-1. Mr. Warren moved to open discussion on the amendment, Mr. Kotowski seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Murphy gave a summary of the amendment, and Mr. Warren read the Geauga County Planning Commission's comments on the amendment. Mr. Murphy called for a motion to continue discussion on the amendment until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Kotowski moved to continue, and Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murphy called for a hearing on proposed amendment 2016-2. Mr. Warren moved to open discussion on the amendment, Mr. Kotowski seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Murphy gave a summary of the amendment, and Mr. Warren read the Geauga County Planning Commission's comments on the amendment. Messrs. Murphy and Kotowski, in response to a question, discussed the fact that the presence of sewers at the 306/87 intersection had animated this amendment and the food service amendment. Mr. Murphy stated, in response to a question, that this amendment only affects those parcels zoned CS at the 306/87 and 306/Music intersections, not other parcels at those intersections. Mr. Murphy called for a motion to continue discussion on the amendment until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Kotowski moved to continue, and Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murphy called for a hearing on proposed amendment 2016-3. Ms. Weiss Carson moved to open discussion on the amendment, Mr. Kotowski seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Murphy gave a summary of the amendment, and Mr. Warren read the Geauga County Planning Commission's comments on the amendment. Mr. Murphy called for a motion to continue discussion on the amendment until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Kotowski moved to continue, and Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murphy called for a hearing on proposed amendment 2016-4. Ms. Weiss Carson moved to open discussion on the amendment, Mr. Kotowski seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Murphy gave a summary of the amendment, and Mr. Warren read the Geauga County Planning Commission's comments on the amendment. Mr. Murphy called for a motion to continue discussion on the amendment until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Kotowski moved to continue, and Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murphy called for a hearing on proposed amendment 2016-5. Mr. Kotowski moved to open discussion on the amendment, Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Murphy gave a summary of the amendment, and Mr. Warren read the Geauga County Planning Commission's comments on the amendment. Mr. Murphy called for a motion to continue discussion on the amendment until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Kotowski moved to continue, and Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murphy called for a hearing on proposed amendment 2016-6. Mr. Kotowski moved to open discussion on the amendment, Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Murphy noted that while the Zoning Commission had received an application from the property owner, 306 Music LLC, through its attorney, Mr. Markowitz, the Zoning Commission did not have an actual amendment to consider at the meeting. Mr. Murphy explained the difference between CS and LB zoning. Mr. Warren read the Geauga County Planning Commission's comments on the proposed amendment. Mr. Murphy called for a motion to continue discussion on the application until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Zoning Commission. Mr. Kotowski moved to continue, and Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Murphy explained that each of these public hearings was continued because the Zoning Commission had no Zoning Secretary at the meeting and because the Commission's chair had resigned, and the remaining members of the Commission were not certain as to precisely what additional documents might be needed or what procedures might need to occur to comply with the law.

Mr. Murphy informed the members of the Zoning Commission that the Board of Trustees had hired a new Zoning Secretary, Ms. Jennell Dahlhausen, and that she would be employed as of June 1. The Commission discussed holding a meeting on June 8 to introduce itself to Ms. Dahlhausen. The Commission further discussed moving the June 22 meeting to June 21. Mr. Kotowski agreed to follow up on the two meetings.

Mr. Murphy entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Kotowski moved, and Ms. Weiss Carson seconded. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

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Mr. Murphy

Acting Chair, Zoning Commission