MINUTES

ATHENS MUNICIPAL-REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting January 7, 2008
Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT
Tom Hamilton
Eric Newberry
Kenny Charles
Ralph Fenton
Dick Pelley

MEMBERS ABSENT
Shannon Alvey
John Ray McKeelhan

OTHERS ATTENDING
Harold Hunter
Gene McConkey
Sherry Miller
Gayle Petitt
Shawn Lindsey
Chad Reese

MINUTES

The minutes of the November 5, 2007 meeting were read and approved on motion by Eric Newberry; seconded by Dick Pelley; vote – unanimous. Items on the agenda for the December 3rd, 2007 meeting were tabled due to lack of quorum.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following officers were nominated and elected:

Chairman
Ralph Fenton nominated Tom Hamilton for Chairman; seconded by Dick Pelley; vote – Unanimous

Vice-Chairman
Ralph Fenton nominated John Ray McKeelhan for Vice-Chairman; seconded by Kenny Charles; vote – Unanimous

Secretary
Tom Hamilton nominated Ralph Fenton for Secretary; seconded by Eric Newberry; vote - Unanimous

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS FROM AUDIENCE
NEW BUSINESS

1. Mr. Hunter VonCannon – Cedar Wood Meadows, Phase II, 1721 Congress Pkwy - Mr. VonCannon offered preliminary drawings, plat # 011207, to the planning commission requesting approval to add three (3) new building consisting of six (6) units. The new drawings showed the extension of utilities. Staff recommended approval.

Motion: To approve Plat # 011207 subject to governmental signatures being acquired.

   MADE:      Eric Newberry
   SECOND:    Kenny Charles
   VOTE:     Unanimous

2. William Lowry House, 405 E. Madison Ave. Tax map 571, Parcel #44 – Ms. Patsy Duckworth and Mr. Ron Brown requested that the above property located at 405 E. Madison Ave. be designated to a Local Landmark Overlay District. The Local Landmark Overlay District would only involve this track of property. The home is registered on The National Historic Registry therefore qualifies as a Historical Local Landmark. The staff recommended approval

Motion: To recommend to Athens City Council to approve the William Lowry House at 405 E. Madison Ave. be designated to a Local Landmark Overlay District.

   MADE:      Eric Newberry
   SECOND:    Ralph Fenton
   VOTE:     Unanimous

3. Shoppes at Congress Parkway, 2007 S. Congress Parkway/ Dennis St. – Mr. Gene McConkey, Athens City Building Inspector, requested approval for access control off of VoTech Drive to the proposed shopping center being built at 2007 S. Congress Parkway and Dennis St. All accesses, two from Dennis St. and the one from VoTech Drive are in compliance of being at least 150 feet apart.

Motion: To grant the access control as petitioned.

   MADE:      Dick Pelley
   SECOND:    Ralph Fenton
   VOTE:     Unanimous
4. **Athens Historical Preservation Commission** – Due to lack of sufficient information, Chairman Hamilton suggested the Planning Commission not review the ordinance amendment at this time. The ordinance is being rewritten so other properties can qualify. The discussion will be held at a later date.

5. **Rella Green, 119 Washington Ave.** - Ms. Green requested approval to add two (2) furnished rooms to the already existing seventeen (17) rooms at the 119 Washington Ave. address. Gene McConkey, City Building Inspector stated that the rooms meet all square footage requirements. Staff recommended approval.

**Motion:** To approve the request for addition of two (2) furnished rooms as submitted.

- **MADE:** Eric Newberry
- **SECOND:** Ralph Fenton
- **VOTE:** Unanimous

6. **WYXI, Cherry St.** - **Use on Review** - Mr. Mark Lefler of WYXI, petitioned the Planning Commission to approve the construction of an accessory use structure near the present site of their radio tower on Cherry St. The proposed building would provide the station with a studio and office building and the structure appearance will not conflict with surrounding residential properties.

**Motion:** To approve the request as submitted.

- **MADE:** Kenny Charles
- **SECOND:** Dick Pelley
- **VOTE:** Unanimous

**STAFF REPORT**

Chad Reese, State Planning Office, offered new material to update the zoning map.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.