

City of Lewiston
PLANNING BOARD MEETING
Minutes of June 25, 1996

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:10PM

Members present: H. Milliken, D. Theriault, D. Jacques, T. Peters,
H. Skelton
Members late: L. Zidle
Members absent: M. Goulet
Staff present: J. Lysen, G. Dycio, C. Revell

II. READING OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: By Mr. Theriault, seconded by Mr. Jacques to accept the minutes of June 11, 1996 and place on file.

VOTE: Passed 5 - 0

III. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Review of proposed amendment to Timber Harvesting Standards and forwarding recommendation to the City Council

Mr. Skelton requested that the record show that he does not represent Mr. Robert Vachon. Mr. Vachon approached Mr. Skelton as a Planning Board member only, requesting assistance on how to bring his concerns regarding timber harvesting before the Planning Board. Subsequently, it was agreed among board members that there does not exist a conflict of interest.

Mr. Lysen then informed the board that attached is the proposed amendment to the timber harvesting standards regarding selective cutting within the required fifty (50) foot buffer. The Planning Staff has prepared this amendment at the Board's request and finds that, in our opinion, the amendment meets both the city's and the landowner's concerns.

Also attached are comments from George H. Bourassa, a licensed professional forester, who works for the Department of Conservation and was asked by the Planning Staff to review and comment on the proposed amendment. Staff asks that the Board consider his comments when making the recommendation to the City Council, and any amendments will be incorporated into the proposed language prior to submitting the Board's recommendation to the Council. The Planning Staff asks that the Planning Board review the proposed amendment, receive input from the public, and forward a recommendation to the City Council.

Mr. Lysen then circulated another copy of the proposed amendment with corrected wording.

Extensive discussion ensued over the definition of the word "stream" and the need for clarification of clear cutting as well as notification to abutters and road access. Mr. Dycio circulated copies of S.P. 570 L.D. 1544 which clarifies "Rivers, Streams, and Brooks".

Chairman Milliken opened the public hearing portion of the meeting. At that time Mr. Ray Cook requested clarification of some of the proposed language to which Mr. Lysen responded. After receiving no further input from the audience, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: By Mr. Harold Skelton, seconded by Mr. Dennis Theriault to send a favorable recommendation to the City Council to accept the proposed changes to Article XII, Section 3, Timber Harvesting Standards as amended. The purpose of this

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recommendation is to liberalize the current Timber Harvesting Standards to allow greater flexibility to land owners. Further, to amend Article II, Section 2, Definitions, in order to utilize the definition of "*River, Stream or Brook*" as recently adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection to define the term "*stream*" as used in the City of Lewiston Zoning and Land Use Ordinance in order to provide consistent interpretation of what constitutes a stream.

VOTE: Passed 6 - 0

B. Review of the draft update of Lewiston's Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Lysen reviewed map changes and updated the Board on the last public hearing. He then informed the Board that two bus tours of the City are being planned in conjunction with the Update. Each trip, one on July 16th and the second on August 6th, will focus on specific areas that have raised the most comment/concerns. A public hearing will then be held after each tour. Chairman Milliken produced three maps from the last Comp Plan Update and suggested Mr. Lysen review and compare original concerns. The following items were also discussed.

- ~ The newly digitized 800 scale map will be ready for the next meeting of July 16th.
- ~ The Board will write out and concerns/questions and address them to staff.
- ~ Public input and possible annual review.
- ~ The 32 items affecting zoning changes be explored first.
- ~ Application for an additional \$7,000.00 grant to implement Comp Plan.
- ~ The City Council as well as department heads and interested public, will be invited on the two bus tours.
- ~ August 15th at Franklin Pasture will be setting for the final Comprehensive Plan Committee public hearing. A cook-out and presentation will be arranged.

It was noted that the Comp Plan will include a list of potential ordinance changes as proposed by both the City Council and Lewiston residents which will be reviewed over the year. Chairman Milliken requested that Mr. Lysen provide him up front with this list. Also noted was a concern of Attorney Hark that "paper roads" be explored before public rights are lost.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Lysen informed the Board that the attached draft of the Truck and Safety Study was distributed to the board informally for their review. Originated by LACTS, the study if adopted, will eventually become part of the transportation component of the Comp Plan.

Mr. Lysen discussed the new City Hall security program and also, how Planning Board meetings will permanently be moved to the City Council Chambers and, accordingly, will now be video taped as opposed to just audio taped.

Mr. Dycio distributed updates to the Board's zoning manuals.

Mr. Lysen noted that going forward, the Board will receive copies of Council action on any recommendations that the Board forwards to the City Council.

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VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: By Mr. Skelton, seconded by Mr. Peters to adjourn the meeting at 8:35PM.

VOTE: Passed 6 - 0

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Goulet
Secretary