

Planning Commission Minutes  
8-7-19

Called to Order: 7:01pm

Present: Brian Tellstone, Joy Reap, Scott Nickerson, Virginia Clarke, Chris Cole, Chris Granda, Jessica Draper, Jack Linn

Public Comment: Jack Linn stated that he spoke with someone who owns a financial services business in Colchester, and he wants to move to Richmond but couldn't. Jessica explained that Tim had wanted to move into the first building, but Buttermilk couldn't change their second floor from residential to commercial.

Scheduling Conflicts: The commission proposed to move the next 4 meetings to 9/12, 9/26, 10/16, 10/30, Jessica will follow up with the space availability. Virginia moved to approve the dates. Seconded by Chris Granda. All were in favor, so moved.

Jolina Court Hearing Update: Jessica gave a brief update about the Jolina Court hearing from 8-5-2019. She explained that the hearing was extended to the next meeting, and they will likely finalize changes at that meeting. She also explained that she provided a list of likely changes or topics of change. Discussion ensued about the large point of contention regarding the ratio of commercial to residential. The commission discussed the concerns regarding flexible zoning versus stricter zoning on the Jolina Court parcel.

Discussion ensued about the role of the planning commission, and how communication about zoning proposal purposes can be better translated to the selectboard.

The planning commission agreed to take a formal position on the proposed zoning and submit it to the selectboard. They agreed to support first entirely above-grade floor commercial, allow upper floor flexibility, and not support a final ratio or a per building ratio.

The group decided to table the remaining agenda items to the next meeting to continue discussing Jolina Court. Jessica announced the date and time for the Village Downtown Zoning hearing as 8-27-19 at 7:15pm.

Discussion continued regarding the potential changes that could be implemented by the selectboard on the Jolina Court proposal.

Chris and Virginia offered to write a letter to the selectboard outlining their position on the potential selectboard changes to the draft Jolina Court zoning.

Brian moved to adjourn. Seconded by Joy. All were in favor, adjourned 9:10pm.

