

Village of Whiting
Plan Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: June 1, 2009

1. Roll call. Chairman Jerry Walters, Al Walkush, LeRoy Heiser, Tim Wright, George Meeks, Dave Pozarski, Skip Karl all present. Also present were Building Inspector, Brent Curless; Trustees John Wachowiak and Cheryl Coulthurst; Richard Marquard and Tim Maertz representing Rice Management.
2. Persons wishing to address the Commission. Trustee John Wachowiak distributed handout outlining a Conceptual Draft Plan for Metro Fire Training Facility to be located on the newly acquired Neenah Paper land west of Village Compost Site. This training facility would be approximately 5 acres and located east of proposed dog park. The facilities initial concept would include a wooden splash tower; shipping container smoke house; car fire and rescue area; a fire hydrant; shared parking lot with dog park and future expansion area examples of LP Tank Fires, HazMat containers and confined space. Concerns raised by Commission members were wear and tear and Strange Street and making sure the neighborhood is notified before moving forward. Question also rose as to what amount of tax loss since Village owned property is tax exempt.
3. Discussion/possible action re Site Plan Review for proposed garage at River View Lodge, 1800B Sherman Avenue. Mr. Maertz presented site plan for 8 stall garage for River View Lodge. The garage is 22'8" x 100 ft and includes seven parking garage units that would be available to residents of River View Lodge and one stall for River View Lodge facility van. The original plan did not include garage however residents have requested the amenity. The exterior façade will match the main facility. By building the garage they will lose 2 parking lot stalls however they still meet the parking requirements. Drainage will be directed toward the retention pond north of Sherman Avenue. Building Inspector Curless stated all requirements were met. Lighting will be cut offs and directed down.

Motion by Meeks, seconded by Heiser to recommend approval of the plan to the Village Board for an eight stall garage for River View Lodge. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

4. Discussion/possible action re Request to amend sign ordinance in Multiple Family Zoning District. Mr. Chris Fish of Graphic House Inc. sent letter to Village requesting the ordinance change since the current ordinance allows one square foot and he wants a 24.5 square foot sign for River View Lodge. Mr. Fish was not at the meeting but Mr. Tim Maertz again represented Rice Management who owns River View Lodge.

The Plan Commission is currently reviewing the Sign Ordinances within the Code and will take into consideration.

Motion by Pozarski, seconded by Karl to table the agenda item until Sign Ordinances are reviewed. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

5. Commission discussion on sign ordinances. The Commission asked Building Inspector Brent Curless for recommendation on the sign ordinances in the various zoning districts for discussion at their next meeting scheduled for Monday, July 13, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.
6. Such other matters as permitted by law. None.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.