

WILLIAMSON PLANNING BOARD

Meeting Minutes June 7, 2011

APPROVED

Present:

T. DeMarree, Chair
J. Ferrante
J. Fox
D. Hoffman, Alternate
J. Willis
T. Wozniak

Absent:

R. Stevens, Alternate

Also in attendance: Joyce Blied, Kirk Baker, Matt Sprague

The **Work Session** was opened at 7:00 p.m. by T. DeMarree. Materials were distributed and reviewed. Agenda items were discussed.

The **Planning Board Meeting** was opened at 7:30 p.m. by T. DeMarree.

A Motion was made to approve the Minutes of the April 5, 2011 Planning Board Meeting as written. Motion carried.

AGENDA

➤ **Agenda Item #1**

Special Use Review

Youth Cafe for the Presbyterian Church, located in the John Palmer building (Old Fire House) East Main Street

Discussion included:

- the coffee house will be open to the community
- the program is targeting youth (Middle School and above)
- parents of children under a certain age will be contacted
- there is recognition that there are many different groups who are in need of and who will benefit from a safe place to assemble

- the coffee house is not being designed as religiously based but hope to make contact with youth in an assortment of ways which may include spiritual guidance
- there will be areas available for homework
- referrals may be available as indicated (psychological, etc.)
- coffee house will be run by volunteers; keeping costs down
- food will be available for purchase but cannot be prepared on site
- a non-profit Board is currently being organized
- hours of operation are yet to be determined; will partially be based on interest
- bathroom facilities are adequate
- code enforcement will be handled by S. Haywood
- is handicap accessible

The building owners live upstairs and are very welcoming. All neighbors have been contacted and notified of the intent. Some of the neighbors on the east side have concerns about people loitering and this remains a source of discussion. The insurance for the coffee house will be carried originally by the Presbyterian Church with the intent of going on their own as the program grows. The group hopes to have the coffee house in operation in September/October 2011.

A Motion was made to recommend acceptance of this Special Use Permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals for a Youth Cafe/Coffee House to be located in the John Palmer building (old fire house), East Main Street. The Planning Board feels this is a proper use of space and a positive presence in the community. Motion carried.

Intra Board

J. Hoffman contacted T. DeMarree regarding a request he has received from Bruce Akins regarding re-zoning of property. T. DeMarree will draft a letter regarding this request for forward to J. Hoffman. The Planning Board was in agreement of this plan.

A Motion was made to adjourn the Planning Board Meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Greaney