

Cullowhee Planning Council

Minutes

February 5, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Conference Room 101A, WCU Cordelia Camp Building

Members	Present	Absent	Members	Present	Absent	Members	Present	Absent
Rick Bennett		X	Myrtle Schrader		X	Mike Byers	X	
Scott Baker	X		Joel Setzer	X		Jim Lewis	X	
Jack Debnam	X		Mike Wade	X				

Staff Present

Michael Poston- Planning Director
John Jeleniewski- Senior Planner
Caroline Edmonds- Planner 1
Heather Baker- County Attorney

Others Present

Regina Glover- WCU Public Administration Student

Call to Order and Quorum Check

Chairman Scott Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Additions to Agenda

Jack Debnam made a motion to approve the agenda. Joel Setzer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes

Jack Debnam made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Jim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Comment- Sign-up sheet- 3 minutes per speaker

There was no public comment.

Old Business

Review of Articles I and II of the Unified Development Ordinance

Michael Poston went through the proposed Article I. Legal Provisions and Article II. Administration and discussed each of the sections. The Cullowhee Planning Council was given the opportunity to discuss the Articles and ask questions.

Informal Discussion and Updates

Planning Updates

Michael Poston gave updates about the Speedwell Acres project, the Little Savannah Project, NDOT is 60% complete with the Cullowhee bridge and on schedule for the November, 2018 finish date, and the amendment to the Cullowhee Architectural Standards were approved by the Board of Commissioners. In Forest Hills, there is a conditional rezoning application for the property off North Country Club Road to allow some commercial, student housing, and market rate staff housing. The public hearing for the Debnam rezoning is on February 19, 2018 at 5:45 at the Board of Commissioners meeting. NCDOT has recently received funding to widen and improve Monteith Gap Road to include segments of sidewalks and bike lanes.

WCU Update

Mike Byers gave updates about Western Carolina University. The new science building will break ground on March 2nd, 2018. A request for qualifications was sent out regarding student housing and they have received 6 or 7 to consider. A request for qualifications was also sent out regarding broadband on the existing utility poles owned by Western Carolina University. A road is being constructed to access the tower that will hold WCU's radio station, 90.5 fm. This tower will also have room for emergency services, Wi-Fi and wireless communication facilities. A parking deck is proposed near the baseball stadium and on the band practice field across from the bookstore. An upper campus residence hall is proposing 600 beds between Judaculla hall and Brown cafeteria. A lower campus residence hall is proposed somewhere near Scott and Walker with 750 beds. Residence halls Scott, Walker and Albright Benton would be demolished. The ground floor of Breese gymnasium will be filled in to create administrative space. The Moore annex will be renovated in the future for office space in the event that the Camp building is vacated to create new classrooms.

The next Cullowhee Planning Council meeting will be on March 12th, 2018.

Adjournment

Chairman Scott Baker adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Caroline Edmonds
Administrative Assistant- Planning



Scott Baker
Planning Council Chair