

MARIEMONT PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 21, 2023

Mr. Van Stone called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Brown, Ms. Geldbaugh, Ms. Reed and Mr. Rich. Also, in attendance was Building Official Rod Holloway.

Mr. Rich moved that his request to have the memorandum he read at the December 13, 2022, be included in full in the minutes. No member of the Planning Commission seconded the motion resulting in a failed motion. Mr. Rich said the intention of the memorandum was to put it before the Planning Commission. He indicated that it would appear in other places.

Ms. Geldbaugh moved, seconded by Mayor Brown to approve the minutes as written for December 13, 2022. On roll call; four ayes, one nay (Mr. Rich dissenting).

Ms. Geldbaugh moved, seconded by Mayor Brown to approve the minutes as written for January 17, 2023. On roll call; five ayes, no nays.

Proposed new legislation presented by Mr. Rich to govern the functioning of the Planning commission was discussed. The findings from the Building Department outlined the powers and duties of the Planning Commission in Section 151.024.

Mr. Rich said this would touch the Architectural Review Board as well. He believes the Planning Commission is more than a quasi-judicial entity where the members have more than just an opinion about community planning. He suggested elevating the knowledge base by volunteering to learn more about John Nolen and other planned communities. There is an opportunity to connect with those other planned communities and gather information to make decisions. He is suggesting that the Planning Commission members take continuing education. He distributed information on the importance of continuing education in planning and zoning and information on Ethics and the Planning Commission Members . His recommendation is to require formal continuing education for Planning Commissioners. Two classes on planning topics and one class in ethics per annum. It would include continuing education requirements for the Building Commissioner as well. If we are going to make judgement, why not better inform ourselves with history and principles.

Mr. Van Stone said he views the Planning Commission as a board that looks at the ordinances and primarily gives variances when this body see it as appropriate.

Mayor Brown said the American judicial systems works with jurors that sit on a jury, many without formal education, who are tasked to render an opinion based on facts being present to them. The jury decides guilt or innocence while the judge imposes a sentence.

Mr. Rich left the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Mayor Brown noted that a member may not leave a meeting without being excused.

Mr. Van Stone moved, seconded by Mayor Brown that the Planning Commission does not believe it needs extensive training/ethics training/town planning and education training as outlined by Mr. Rich. Ms. Geldbaugh said she does not take this position lightly. On roll call; four ayes, no nays.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ms. Shelly Reed, Secretary