

Town of Bell Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2018

Town of Bell Community Center

Commissioners present: Janice Olson, Jackie Eid and Mark Ehlers; Absent: Larry Chernoff, Greg Weiss

Commission Volunteers present: Will Hughes, Nancy and Phil Moye

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Janice Olson – Commission Chair

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Jackie Eid moved to approve the minutes; Janice Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There was no current correspondence.

The Comprehensive Plan Survey:

Phil Moye prepared a draft of “The Town of Bell’s Rural Character” to more precisely clarify the community’s meaning of the phrase, “Maintaining the Town’s Rural Character.” It was designed to determine the issues of different areas to better identify the needs and concerns of the residents.

Will Hughes had emailed the Commission members and volunteers, a draft of the potential questionnaire to be circulated by April 2019. He wondered about the use of a data base to assist in the compilation of the data and drill down for more specific items. It was agreed that it may be possible to have Northland College students, or others do the tabulation of the survey results.

After much discussion it was agreed to use information from the 2010 census for the demographics and financial information and not include it in our questionnaire. Will Hughes stated that he had reviewed the surveys of various other communities and discovered there is no standard questionnaire. The entities did whatever they determined to be relevant for the community.

Nancy Moye discussed the potential use of “focus groups” to look into, and report on the various issues affecting each “neighborhood. We could solicit volunteers from each “neighborhood” to provide input.

The Commissioners and Volunteers reviewed all the drafted questions from the questionnaire developed by Will Hughes. The seven-page document was read, discussed and edited by all. There was much discussion regarding what questions needed to be changed, deleted, or if other questions need to be included. Will Hughes agreed to update the questionnaire and include questions regarding the “neighborhoods”. He also agreed to have this completed for review at our next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2019

Jackie Eid moved for adjournment: the motion was seconded by Mark Ehlers. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM

Mark Ehlers – appointed minutes preparer