DORCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES – JANUARY 8, 2014

The Dorchester County Planning Commission held their regular meeting on January 8, 2014 at 12:00 pm in the County Office Building, Room 110 in Cambridge MD. Members present were: Laura Layton, Robbie Hanson, Bill Giese, David Andrews, and Jerry Burroughs. Also present were Steve Dodd, Director of Planning, Rodney Banks, Deputy Director, and Merris Hurley, recording. Absent were Chad Malkus, Ralph Lewis and Pam Jackson.

Mr. Hanson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Giese to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2013 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Andrews and carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Shared Driveway Request – J. Edward Powell. For property identified on Tax Map 13, Grid 21, Parcel 22. Mr. Dodd explained that this project was a major subdivision when first submitted, but it is now a minor subdivision. Bill Craig informed the Board that Mr. Powell is giving this land to Thendara and wants it to be of maximum value by being buildable lots. It would be physically impossible to build individual roads on this project and retain the developmental potential. Sight distance won't be a problem due to the area to be cleared for this project. A motion was made by Mr. Andrews to approve the request with the condition that the applicant submits a Shared Driveway Agreement and that Mr. Malkus review such Agreement. Seconded by Mr. Burroughs and unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Non-commercial raising of poultry (chickens). Mr. Banks summarized his survey findings from other counties to the Commission. Mr. Dodd told the Commission that if they wanted Staff to proceed, Staff would work on a text amendment that would then be submitted to the Council. After discussing how most subdivision deed restrictions and covenants already address this issue and restricting non-commercial raising of poultry helps to protect the spread of diseases such as avian influenza, a motion made by Mrs. Layton to leave the ordinance the way that it is. Seconded by Mr. Burroughs and unanimously carried.

With no further items or information, Mr. Andrews made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Giese seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Dodd

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