

**PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey Planning Commission conducted a regular meeting on Thursday, January 6, 2011, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Gary Levine
 Commissioner Ralph Brauer
 Commissioner Andrew Dunaway
 Commissioner Bryan Rogers
 Commissioner Gary Van Scoy

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Associate Planner Tim Gladhill
 Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Levine called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CITIZEN INPUT

Commissioner Van Scoy, as a citizen stated he wanted to commend the city on the effectiveness of the snow removal; this has been a nasty winter so far and they have done a phenomenal job.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Dunaway, seconded by Commissioner Brauer, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Dunaway, Brauer, Rogers, and Van Scoy. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

APPROVE PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

Motion by Commissioner Brauer, seconded by Commissioner Dunaway to approve the following minutes as presented:

- 1) Planning Commission regular meeting minutes dated December 2, 2010.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Brauer, Dunaway, Rogers, and Van Scoy. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

NOTE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The following Council minutes were noted:

- 1) City Council regular meeting minutes dated November 9, 2010
- 2) City Council regular meeting minutes dated November 23, 2010

PUBLIC HEARINGS/COMMISSION BUSINESS

Case #1: Public Hearing – Consider Amendment to Section 117-111 (R-1 Residential District) of Chapter 117 of the Ramsey Zoning Code; Case of City of Ramsey

Public Hearing

Chairperson Levine called the public hearing to order at 7:02 p.m.

Presentation

Environmental Coordinator Anderson presented the staff report and displayed five scenarios that should be considered while considering the ordinance amendment.

Citizen Input

There was none.

Motion by Commissioner Van Scoy, seconded by Commissioner Dunaway, to close the public hearing.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Van Scoy, Dunaway, Brauer, and Rogers. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

The public hearing closed at 7:13 p.m.

Commission Business

Commissioner Van Scoy asked with Park Zoning, which of the five scenarios shown would be applicable. Commissioner Van Scoy also inquired about the difference between dedicated parks and the zoning designation of park. Rivers Bend Park was giving as an example.

Associate Planner Gladhill stated it is designated as a park, but not dedicated as a park. Dedicated park is a term that is used when a plat comes forward and land is given special for park purposes rather than money to meet park dedication requirements.

Discussion ensued regarding park zoning and park dedication. They continued discussing the scenarios.

Environmental Coordinator Anderson displayed a map of parcels that could be affected by the ordinance change.

Associate Planner Gladhill stated looking at the map the majority of areas being affected are Emerald Pond Park, areas in the Ponds Subdivision and a few parcels abutting Rivers Bend Park.

Commissioner Brauer asked what purpose is served by doing this.

Environmental Coordinator Anderson stated the purpose would be to add in some flexibility to some lots adjacent to permanent open spaces. The intent of the rear yard setback is to provide separation of living spaces and with the State Supreme Court ruling on variances, which is where the flexibility comes into play.

Associate Planner Gladhill stated the city was looking for more ways in the Comp Plan for flexible zoning; now the city is trying to find ways in the ordinances for the flexibility. He noted variances no longer are viewed as the standard tool for flexibility and are limited to very few special circumstances.

Motion by Commissioner Van Scoy, seconded by Commissioner Brauer, to recommend that City Council introduce an ordinance amending Chapter 117-111 of the City's Zoning Code to include a reduced rear yard setback of twenty (20) feet on properties entirely adjoining a parcel(s) zoned PARK.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Van Scoy, Brauer, Dunaway, and Rogers. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Case #7: Staff Update

The Staff Update was noted.

Case #8: Zoning Bulletin

The Zoning Bulletin was noted.

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Van Scoy, seconded by Commissioner Brauer, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Levine, Commissioners Van Scoy, Brauer, Dunaway, and Rogers. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Miller
Planning Manager

ATTEST:

JoAnn Shaw
Planning Division Secretary

Drafted by JoAnn Shaw