

LEHIGH ACRES COMMUNITY PLANNING CORPORATION

OCTOBER 13, 2004 MINUTES

Chairman Jim Fleming called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Secretary Willard Baker took Roll Call.

Present were:

- Jim Fleming, Chairman
- Frank LaRosa, Vice Chairman
- Willard Baker, Secretary
- James Mudd, County Planning Liaison
- John Miller
- Charlie DiFelice
- Grace Parish
- Desmond Barrett
- Liz Eif
- Wayne Elrod
- Carl Snipes
- Ralph Hemingway
- Azelma Simmons
- Colin Feng

Chairman Jim Fleming gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ORGANIZATION AGENDA:

1. Review and Approval of the Agenda

Motion Approved –

- a. Karen Adams declined Item 9 on the Agenda.
- b. Item 9 was stricken from the Agenda

2. Review and Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 09/08/04

Motion Approved –

3. Seven (7) Candidates were provided the opportunity to introduce themselves and make a brief statement as to what they could bring to the Board
 - a. David Adams
 - b. Robert Anderson
 - c. Rick Angelickis
 - d. John Dixon Morrow
 - e. Keith Richter
 - f. Bo Turberville
 - g. Mike Welch

All Seven (7) Candidates responded to questions from the Board.

4. Motion made to sign Ballots and for Jim Mudd and Dr Banyon to count and tally them, ensuring that all Board Members ranked all Seven (7) Candidates. The ballots are open to the public, so a closed ballot would not be allowed under the Sunshine Rule.

(Motion Approved (M15) – to sign the Ballots

5. The Board was advised by Dr Banyon to rank the Candidates 1 to 7 with (1) being the highest or the one most desired for the Board.
 - a. There was discussion regarding the ranking using 1 to 7; the Board agreed with ranking all Candidates.
 - b. There was an issue made by Robert Anderson re: who would vote; Mr Anderson stated he would contact his attorney. Mr Anderson felt all in attendance should vote for the Candidates; due to the fact the Board had not Incorporated or approved their By-Laws yet.
 - c. Dr Banyon clarified that even with the By-Laws the County Commissioners recognized the Board as being empowered to conduct the study and prepare the report of what the Citizens of Lehigh envision as their future and needs.
 - d. Dr Banyon also stated that the Board did not have to Incorporate ever, that was something they wished to do in order to receive \$25,000 from Lee County to use towards the study.
 - e. Ballots were used; Keith Richter received the lowest score, which afforded him the vacant seat on the Board.

Ballot results with the tallied scores are listed below.

	TOTAL	BAKER	BARRETT	DIFELICE	EILF	ELROD	FENG	FLEMING	HEMINGWAY	LAROSA	MILLER	PARISH	SIMMONS	SNIPES
ADAMS, DAVID	50	7	2	4	4	7	4	3	1	3	5	5	3	2
ANDERSON, ROBERT	71	6	6	7	7	5	6	7	3	6	6	7	2	3
ANGLICKIS, RICK	48	1	7	5	1	1	1	6	4	7	7	6	1	1
MORROW, JOHN	50	2	3	2	5	4	5	4	6	5	3	3	4	4
RICHTER, KEITH	42	3	4	3	2	3	2	5	2	4	2	2	5	5
TURBERVILLE, BO	47	4	5	1	3	2	3	2	5	2	4	4	6	6
WELCH, MIKE	56	5	1	6	6	6	7	1	7	1	1	1	7	7

Ballot results are also available on the website.

6. Keith assumed his position with the Board for the remainder of the meeting.
7. DRAFT By-Laws and Incorporation Policies were distributed to the Board to review and submit their comments to Jim Mudd. Jim Mudd in turn will forward the comments/suggestions to be reviewed by an attorney.

The Finalized By-Laws and Incorporation Policies, will be discussed and voted on at the November meeting.

8. Emails, Public Comments, etc shall be expressed as Personal Views and not the views as a Member or Officer of the Board unless it has been discussed by the Board as a whole.
9. Charlie DiFelice stated his dissatisfaction with Jim Fleming, asking for Jim's resignation
 - a. Jim had submitted letters to the media signing them as Chair of the Board
 - b. Board Members had not discussed these issues and did not feel that Jim should make statements "for the Board" that had not been discussed and decided upon
 - c. Jim Fleming apologized for the emails and promised to refrain from taking future stands or sending emails as representing the Board, he stated he would modify his behavior
 - d. Mel Toadvine, Lehigh Citizen, stated that even without signing a letter he and most media would attach the fact that someone is associated with a office or committee.

➤ **ACTION ITEM** - Suggested that the Board appoint a PIO Public Information Officer, where comments and opinions of the Board would emanate from.

10. Dr Banyon stated that
- a. We needed to recognize that this is not just a Community Plan, but that in fact we are Building a Community; a Civic Infrastructure
 - b. Citizens and Members should feel free to express their opinions
 1. That it was good and healthy for this expression
 2. You need people to feel free to disagree
 - c. Warned the Committee not to get "bogged down in the process"
 1. Too much conflict can derail the process
 2. Community strife can derail the process
 - d. Commissioners want to know the public supports the Committee
 1. Community input and involvement
 - e. The Planning Process Steps and information on a retreat are posted on the web.
 - f. The retreat is aimed more for the Board to assist them with
 1. Parliamentary Rules;
 2. Roles of Subcommittee Chairs;
 3. Vision/Mission/Goals which they will in turn bring back to a future Board Meeting for an Open-Discussion with the public.
 4. The public is invited to the retreat, but they will not be involved or be provided with the opportunity to question and answer as in monthly Board Meetings
 5. The Retreat should take 3 – 4 hours, with as many as possible from the Board in attendance.

FUTURE MEETING

7:00 P.M., Nov 10, 2004, John Sweatlock Hall, Lutheran Church.
(John Sweatlock Hall is available to use through the month of December)

Retreat to be coordinated by Dr Banyon, members to be notified.

November Community Planning Agenda

1. Adoption of Organization By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation
2. Procedures for Formal Application for County Grant Money and Other Funding Sources (Jim Mudd)
3. PIO to be designated/appointed

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Open Public Comments on any Subject Relevant to the Authority, Scope and Mission of the Panel (5 Minutes) –

- Several citizens stated their concerns about increased taxes, and increased taxes on businesses.
- Question re: the Subcommittee proposed chairs, why one was being selected over another
 - a. The Subcommittees are proposed, the chairs are proposed, to be discussed and agreed upon by the Board
- It was stated that the Chamber of Commerce is not represented on the Citizen's Board. The Chamber of Commerce is welcome to serve on the various Sub-Committees and work with the Board.
- A Sheriff's Ride-Along was offered, by Patrick McDonald by calling 477-1820. Patrick encouraged members to take the time and let the Sheriff's office show some of their concerns that the Board may not be aware of.
- A meet & greet, Open House with the United Way was offered, details to be forthcoming.
- A "Special thanks to Bo Turberville" for supplying copies/handouts for the meetings until monies are available for that purpose.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion for the meeting be adjourned - Motion Seconded – Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned 9:30 P.M.

Karen Adams , Recording Secretary

Note: All handouts, By-Laws, Meeting Minutes, Incorporation, etc are posted on the website,
www.lehighacresplanning.com

and available as hardcopy in the East County Library at the Reference Desk.