



City of Fort Bragg

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Meeting Minutes Community Development Committee

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

3:00 PM

Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Committee Member Norvell called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: 2 - Dave Turner and Bernie Norvell

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1A. [17-501](#) Approve Minutes of August 28, 2017

A motion was made by Committee Member Norvell, seconded by Committee Member Turner, that these Committee Minutes be approved for Council review. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

3. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

3A. [17-508](#) Receive Update and Provide Direction Regarding Visit Fort Bragg Committee Membership

Special Projects Manager Jennifer Owen offered a brief background of the Visit Fort Bragg (VFB) Committee framework and membership; historically a structured membership of 5-7 volunteers meeting on a regular basis with difficulty reaching a quorum at meetings. Owen is bringing matter to CDC for discussion in order to establish protocol moving forward.

Both Committee members approved staff recommendations regarding increased membership that represents a broad cross-section of the Fort Bragg tourism sector, whose members agree to complete and sign a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form.

Committee members asked clarifying questions and both members approved Staff recommendations. Committee Member Turner noted that perhaps the time of VFB Committee meetings could be reconsidered to accommodate current members in an effort to approve attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Rex Gressett inquired into specific details of recent VFB project manager selection

3B. [17-496](#) Receive Report and Provide Direction Regarding Fort Bragg's Beekeeping Policies

Associate Planner Perkins presented staff report regarding current beekeeping requirements and potential policy changes to relax Fort Bragg's beekeeping regulations. Perkins offered an assessment of beekeeping ordinances from other jurisdictions in California and answered clarifying questions from Committee Members.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Eve Houtala - spoke in favor of allowing two hives in all zoning districts, asked questions regarding 4H letters of permission.
- Mary Beringtney - spoke in favor of permitting two hives
- Catherine Zooby - current resident living in unpermitted beekeeping zone and would like to keep hives.
- Ruth Sparks - Supports beekeeping and relaxed regulations.

Committee Member Norvell expressed concern about 4H Members providing a permission letter in order to participate in beekeeping. Regardless of how many siblings, Norvell would like beekeeping to be an option of any 4H Member. Norvell also spoke in favor of permitting two hives in all districts. Committee Member Turner concurred with Norvell and added the necessity to provide an avenue available for those with health concerns due to bee allergies to be addressed. Staff will make these changes and the new ordinance will go to Council for approval with Community Development Committee recommendation.

The Committee directed staff to draft beekeeping ordinance with their recommendations and bring to Council.

3C. [17-506](#) Receive Analysis of Residential and Commercial Vacancy in Fort Bragg and Provide Direction

Planning Technician McCormick presented report on vacant properties in Fort Bragg and introduced various policy options from other jurisdictions that Committee Members might request staff to develop further.

Committee Member Norvell asked clarifying questions regarding Licensing and Registration. Committee Member Turner spoke in support of a Vacant Property List and Registration to understand reasons why properties are vacant, offer assistance, and place these properties on the police with current contact information should issues arise. Norvell supports Vacant Owner Survey as well, but is concerned about over-reaching into private property owner privacy and rights. Staff will bring these recommendations to City Council for Staff direction.

The Committee directed staff to further develop Property Owner Survey and Vacant Property Registration further and bring to City Council for further direction.

4. MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE / STAFF

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Member Norvell adjourned the meeting at 3:53 PM.