

**Town of Amherst
Planning Commission Minutes
October 3, 2007**

A meeting of the Town of Amherst Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson June Driskill in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 7:30 PM on October 3, 2007.

It was noted that a quorum was present as indicated below:

A Jason Campbell	P William Jones
P June Driskill	P Steve LaBar
A Lyle Garrette	A Richard Wydner
P William Hathaway	

Town Manager Jack Hobbs was present in his capacity as Secretary to the Commission.

The minutes of the September 5, 2007 Commission meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Hathaway, and carried 4-0 according to the following:

Jason Campbell	Absent	William Jones	Aye
June Driskill	Aye	Steve LaBar	Aye
Lyle Garrette	Absent	Richard Wydner	Absent
William Hathaway	Aye		

Ambriar Plan Ordinance Amendments

The Secretary reminded the Commission that the Ambriar plan envisions significant revisions to the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. The ordinance from the Ambriar Area technical study was reviewed, but it was recognized that it will probably take several months to work through the ordinance development and hearing process after the plan is officially adopted.

Coordinating Land Use Planning and Transportation Planning

The Commission discussed the Commission's role in determining how the Town might meet the requirements of VDOT's "Chapter 527" program which are to be implemented in the Lynchburg transportation district as of July 1, 2008.

Comprehensive Plan Update

The Secretary reported that work is continuing on the "phase 1" portion of the comprehensive plan update project with delivery of an approvable draft expected toward the middle of November. The Commission discussed the approach it would prefer to follow for the "phase 2," forward-looking portion of the effort.

Landscape Ordinance

The Secretary reported that, following the First National Bank of Altavista and Dulwich Commons site plan approval processes, comments have been received on the sheer number of plantings required by the new landscape ordinance and suggested that the ordinance could be clearer in describing what is required. The Commissioners agreed to monitor the effects of the ordinance.

Report from Town Council

The Secretary reported that the Town Council has approved the replacement of nonconforming structures ordinance (§18.1-601.2) as recommended by the Planning Commission, the flood plain ordinance (§18.1-915) as per the Department of Conservation and Recreation and FEMA review, and a relief from front setback rules ordinance (§18.1-804) revised from what the Commission had recommended. A Town Council public hearing on the Ambriar comprehensive plan amendment is scheduled for October 10.

There being no further business, Mr. Hathaway made a motion that was seconded by Mr. LaBar and carried 4-0 according to the following to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 PM:

Jason Campbell	Absent	William Jones	Aye
June Driskill	Aye	Steve LaBar	Aye
Lyle Garrette	Absent	Richard Wydner	Absent
William Hathaway	Aye		

June Driskill, Chairperson

Attest: _____