

**MINUTES
LAKE COUNTY
MT. PLYMOUTH-SORRENTO
PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

MARCH 25, 2008

The Mt. Plymouth-Sorrento Planning Advisory Committee met on at 6:30 p.m. at Round Lake Elementary School, 31333 Round Lake Rd., Mt. Dora, Florida. The Mt. Plymouth-Sorrento Planning Advisory Committee is an advisory committee for continued planning efforts within the Mt. Plymouth-Sorrento area as defined in Ordinance 2008- ____.

Members Present:

G. Curtis Duffield, President	
Priscilla Bernardo-Drugge, Vice-President	
Jeanne Etter	Dr. Ronald Holman
Judy Weis	Leslie E. Garvis

Members Absent:

None

Staff Present:

Brian T. Sheahan, AICP, Planning & Community Design Director
Melanie Marsh, Deputy County Attorney
Karen Ginsberg, Senior Planner, Planning & Community Design
Rick Hartenstein, Senior Planner, Planning & Community Design
Donna Bohrer, Public Hearing Coordinator, Planning & Community Design

Guests:

Commissioner Linda Stewart, Lake County Board of County Commissioners
Keith Schue, Local Planning Agency member
Peggy Belflower, Local Planning Agency member

G. Curtis Duffield, President called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and noted that there was a Quorum present. He confirmed that Proof of Publication was on file in the Planning and Community Design Division and that the meeting had been noticed pursuant to the Sunshine Statute.

President G. Curtis Duffield welcomed the public and said after a short business meeting, they would break into small groups with various County staff who would be available to answer questions. He explained that in the future the MPSPAC would be hosting quarterly meeting such as this to answer questions and to receive public comments.

He said a resignation letter had been received from Scott Taylor and that a vacancy now existed on the committee. He said applications were available and that the deadline was April 25, 2008.

Heather Brush said she wanted to express the community's gratitude for the hard work of the Committee. In response to a question from Kathy McDonald, the boundaries of the planning area were described. Terry Askins asked that each county representative to briefly discuss issues they thought were pertinent to this area.

The following County staff members introduced themselves and briefly commented on issues affecting this area:

- Brian T. Sheahan, AICP, Planning & Community Design Director, said his department was responsible for the Comprehensive Plan, the Land Development Regulations. In addition, he was responsible to assist this Committee with achieving their goals.
- T.J. Fisk, AICP, Metropolitan Planning Organization, said his department was responsible for coordinating regional transportation projects, which included trails, aviation and other forms of transportation. He briefly discussed the proposed Wekiva Parkway.
- Jim Stivender, Public Works Director, said County public works is responsible for the local roadways. He said their focus was on maintaining the roads and adding shoulders.
- Fred Schneider, PE, Director of Engineering, discussed information on road plans that is available to the public on the County's website. He said that it was proposed in the Plan to have Wolfbranch Road remain a two (2) lane road. He said there were no plans to widen CR 437 and explained that a re-alignment of the intersection of SR 46 and CR 437 would be the subject of a study after the plans for the proposed toll road are finalized.
- Harry Fix, AICP, Director of School Planning, discussed Elementary School J which will be co-located with the community park planned for this area. He said the school and the park would share facilities such as ball fields. He said this school would help to alleviate overcrowding at Round Lake and Seminole Spring schools.

- Jimmy Connor, Lake County School Board member, discussed the new school and the advantages of co-location and cooperation with the County.
- Roberto Bonilla, Lake County Parks Director discussed how the conceptual plan for the elementary school and the park. He said there would be more public meetings in the future.
- Dottie Keedy, Growth and Economic Development Director, said she would be working with the County to encourage re-development, expansion of current business and the enhancement of economic opportunities.
- Allison Thall, Citizen's Support Services Director, briefly discussed some of the responsibilities of the Community Services Department and said she would be available to answer questions.

Question Period:

Clark Morris said he would like to see the County pursue economic opportunities related to "green collar job" as was referenced in the report from the County's economic consultant's report. He thought that eco-businesses could be linked to eco-tourism in Lake County.

Pam Janelle asked which parts of the Miller Sellan Framework Study would be considered pertinent for the work of this committee. Mr. Sheahan said it would depend on what the community and the committee thought were pertinent and the policies in the proposed 2025 Plan.

Keith Schue said the Wekiva Parkway project would enable SR 46 to remain a two (2) lane road. He discussed the importance of tracking the cumulative impact of development on transportation. Mr. Fish said SR 46 is currently a regional road but it will eventually become a local road with that capacity. He noted that the new Parkway will divert traffic from SR 46 which will make available new capacity.

Louis Alvera asked about the effect of the new elementary school on Wolfbranch Road which will not be widened. Mr. Schneider said that intersection improvements would be built. He added that the school traffic impacts would be outside of peak commuter traffic times.

Stephen Janelle asked about the vision of the committee. Jeanne Etter and Pricilla Drugge explained that the Mt. Plymouth-Sorrento policies are the vision. Mr. Sheahan explained what a comprehensive plan was and that the Land Development Regulations (LDRs) are the rules and regulations that implement the Plan.

Commissioner Stewart said that Clark Morris had bought get well cards for people to sign for the deputy sheriff injured recently responding to a call in the Mt. Plymouth-Sorrento area.

At 7:30 p.m. the meeting broke into smaller groups focused on specific topics.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Donna R. Bohrer
Public Hearing Coordinator

Jeanne Etter
Secretary