

**Town of Smithfield
Planning Board Minutes
Thursday, February 6th, 2025
Town Hall
Council Chambers
6:00 PM**

Members Present:

Chairman Mark Lane
Doris Wallace
Ashley Spain
Alisa Bizzell
Tara Meyer
Bryan Stanley

Members Absent:

Vice-Chairman Debbie Howard
Wiley Narron

Staff Present:

Stephen Wensman, Planning Director
Julie Edmonds, Administrative Support Specialist

Staff Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IDENTIFY VOTING MEMBERS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Mark Lane requested to swap the order of the agenda allowing S-25-01 to be heard first and ZA-25-01 to be last. Ashley Spain made a motion to approve the agenda as changed; seconded by Doris Wallace. Unanimously approved by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES January 2nd, 2025

Doris Wallace made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Bryan Stanley. Unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

S-25-01 Buffalo Ridge Preliminary Plat:

***This agenda item was quasi-judicial so the minutes aren't available. ***

ZA-25-01 Tattoo and Body Piercing Establishments: Public meeting to review a proposed amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance, Article 6.6 Table of Uses and Activities to make Tattoo and Body Piercing Establishments permitted uses in the B-2 and B-3 zoning districts.

Stephen Wensman presented a proposed UDO amendment to make tattoo and body piercing establishments a permitted use in the B-2 and B-3 districts. Planning staff reviewed zoning codes for other towns and most have deliberately made tattoo and body piercing establishments permitted uses. The special use process may be a relic of the past when there was a stigma about such establishments. The establishments are commonplace today and concerns about health and safety are addressed with state regulation of the industry. Staff recommends approval of the zoning text amendment ZA-25-01, with a statement declaring the request consistent with the Town of Smithfield Comprehensive Growth Management Plan and that the request is reasonable and in the public interest.

Doris Wallace made a motion to recommend approval of the zoning text amendment, ZA-25-01, finding the amendment consistent with the Town of Smithfield Comprehensive Growth Management Plan and other adopted plans, and that the amendment is reasonable and in the public interest, seconded by Bryan Stanley. Also approved by Alisa Bizzell and Tara Meyer. Denied by Mark Lane and Ashley Spain.

Stephen Wensman discussed either rewriting or doing away with the tree preservation ordinance and he asked the Planning Board for their opinion on it. He offered to email the tree preservation ordinance to everyone and that each board member read it and be prepared to give feedback at the next Planning Board meeting.

Old Business

Adjournment

Alisa Bizzell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ashley Spain. Unanimously approved.

Next Planning Board meeting is March 6th, 2025, at 6pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Edmonds".

Julie Edmonds
Administrative Support Specialist