MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2009

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 5, 2009, in the Council Chambers, 1500 Blowing Rock Road. Mayor Loretta Clawson presided. Council members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Lynne Mason, Jamie Leigh, Rennie Brantz, Janet Pepin, and Stephen Phillips. Planning Commission members in attendance were Bunk Spann-Chair, Mary Ruth McRae-Vice Chair, Terrence Milstead, Brett Scantlin, Greg Simmons, Don Dotson, Sarah Huffstetler, Kimberly Marland, and Jay Vincent. Staff members present were Town Manager Greg Young, Deputy Town Clerk Kimberly Brown, Special Assistant to the Manager Jim Byrne, Development Coordinator David Graham, Planner Jane Shook, and Urban Design Specialist Brian Johnson.

The purpose of the meeting was to hold a public hearing on the final draft of the Boone 2030 Land Use Plan and the Urban Forest Management Plan.

BOONE 2030 LAND USE PLAN

Development Coordinator David Graham presented the final draft of the Boone 2030 Land Use Plan. He outlined the process by which the document was created. It was the consensus of the Town Council and Planning Commission that the final draft of the Land Use Plan provides direction and presents a clear vision of the future of development and growth in Boone. Members of both groups agreed that a challenge will be incorporating the plan into the Unified Development Ordinance. Members of the Town Council and Planning Commission expressed their appreciation to the Development Services Staff for the hard work involved in creating the plan. The groups agreed that education of the public will be important in the implementation of the plan. Mayor Clawson invited comment from the public. Jim West stated that he supports the concept of the plan but foresees potential challenges in implementing the plan. With no other public input, Mayor Clawson closed the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Urban Design Specialist Brian Johnson presented the final draft of the Urban Forestry Management Plan. He stated the plan will improve the existing tree plan and incorporates information from the 2007 Smart Growth Audit. It was the consensus of the Town Council and the Planning Commission that the plan provides good vision and guiding principles for the preservation of trees. A concern of both groups is achieving a balance between development of the land and coexisting with the surrounding ecosystem. Another concern of both the Council and the Commission is the incorporation of this plan into the current Town ordinances. Mr. Johnson stated that educating the public about the forestry plan and related issues will be an important step in implementing the plan. Furthermore, he stated that the Tree Board will continue to study and review the plan. Mayor Clawson opened the floor for public comment. Jim West stated that the Urban Forestry Management Plan is an impressive document. He voiced a concern about the issue of providing tree canopy and meeting screening or buffer requirements.

With no other public input, Mayor Clawson closed the public hearing and adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

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Deputy Town Clerk Mayor