

Georgetown-Scott County Planning Commission

Comprehensive Plan Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2015

In Attendance:	Rob Jones, Chairman	Steve Smith, Vice-Chair
	Joe Kane, Director	Megan Chan, staff
	Bill Burke	Matt Summers, staff
	Rick Hostetler	Mike Hockensmith
	Frank Wiseman	Chad Wallace
	Kandice Whitehouse	Claude Christensen
	David Lusby	Christie Robinson
	Connie Tackett	Polly Singer Eardley
	JR Ham, guest	John Ward, guest
	Robert Swanigan, guest	Sherri Nicholas, guest

The meeting convened in the Georgetown fire Station #3 at 5:00 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction

The Committee approved the minutes from the previous meeting on November 17, 2015, with the correction that Claude Christensen was in attendance. Motion by Connie Tackett, second by Frank Wiseman.

Introductions and a Unified Comprehensive Plan

Joe Kane introduced the meeting topics and guests, and asked Claude Christensen to speak regarding a unified Comprehensive Plan. Christensen described Sadieville's planning process, noting that in the past, Sadieville and Stamping Ground have been separate elements of the Comp Plan. This year, the intent is to coordinate and incorporate their work into the overall plan throughout the document rather than as stand-alone chapters. However, Sadieville does intend to do some of its own visioning work and meetings to create a more detailed city level plan to be used for budgeting and prioritization purposes. They will have a town meeting on November 30th to gather information, and when formulating their plan, will do so in a format compatible for inclusion in the countywide Comp Plan.

Rob Jones and Megan Chan discussed the process Stamping Ground is using with the Kentucky League of Cities to create their strategic plan. Those results will be utilized by the Comp Plan.

KYTC District 7 Presentation

JR Ham, Planning Supervisor of District 7, gave an overview of the Transportation department's 6-year planning process, and described Transportation Alternatives Program funding. He suggested that more long-term master-planning be conducted to get out in front of development, and that traffic studies be conducted prior to making decisions. He wanted the group to acknowledge that transit is always subsidized, and that in his experience, everything boils down to funding.

Joe Kane introduced the next three speakers, with a lead-in to community facilities and local government services. He discussed the need for baseline data, and concern for how existing Levels of Service (LOS) can be maintained with growth. He asked that committee members consider how the Comp Plan supports these departments.

Georgetown Fire Department Presentation

Fire Chief John Ward described the effect of growth on the Georgetown Fire Department, and existing staff and service levels. The City of Georgetown is a Class 3 LOS for all structures within the city. The County is evaluated by proximity of hydrants and fire stations. 10-12% of the county is within a class 10 rating (lowest level, means they are 5 or more miles from service area). The LOS rating impacts homeowner's insurance rates. Next, Ward reviewed the existing fire station locations and their 1.5 mile and 2.5 mile coverage areas (regular vs ladder truck coverage). Ward identified northeast Georgetown as a growing area that would benefit from a future new station. He mentioned potential coordination for a shared facility with EMS. He also mentioned Toyota as a potential partner for land.

Georgetown Police Department Presentation

Captain Robert Swanigan provided a department overview, including authorized strength of 51. The department anticipates 36,000 calls for services this year. With growth, and new alcohol facility inspections, there is desire for increased staffing. For example, the department does not have the man-power for traffic enforcement, which is a frequent concern and complaint. Many areas of speeding and safety concerns, high traffic accident counts, etc. The highest volume of calls pertain to: accidents, shoplifting, and heroin/overdoses (dispatched to 2 overdoses per week).

Parks and Recreation Department Presentation

Interim Georgetown/Scott County Parks and Recreation Director Sherri Nicolas reviewed the mission, vision, and department overview. They currently have 16 full time staff (17 funded) and 100-200 part-time staff depending on the season. Nicholas reviewed various park sizes and service areas, and noted that we are below the national median for LOS, and that at our current rate of development will dip further below as the city grows. She noted that it is easy to require lands to be dedicated for parks with new development, but that the land should be useable land, not something leftover. Local park usage is higher than the national benchmarks. She also discussed the economic benefits of recreation facilities, such as ball fields bringing tournaments and overnight visitors, and that expansion of the Legacy Trail would bring additional visitors and stops for lunch or dinner, shopping, etc. She repeated the other departments in saying more services will equal more staffing needs.

Logistics, Details, Dates

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held on December 15, 2015 at Fire Station #3.

There was no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Rob Jones, Chair