

March 26, 2019

The Western Nassau Heritage Preservation Committee (WNHPC) met in regular session this 26th day of March, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Callahan County Building, 45401 Mickler Street, Callahan, Florida. Committee members present were Bobby Franklin, John Stack, Linda Morris, and Chair Jimmy Higginbotham. Absent member was Barry Holloway. Representing the Department of Planning and Economic Opportunity were Taco Pope, Director; and Adrienne Burke, Assistant Director. Also present was Heather Nazworth, recording secretary.

Chair Higginbotham called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Morris led the Invocation and Chair Higginbotham led the Pledge of the Allegiance to the American Flag.

It was moved by Ms. Morris, seconded by Mr. Franklin and unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the November 27, 2018 Western Heritage Preservation Committee meeting as presented.

Mr. Pope mentioned that this is the one-year anniversary of this committee and there have been continuous outreach efforts. He provided a booklet consisting of the quarterly report for the WNHPC containing public and organizational feedback. Ms. Burke stated that the goals for the past year regarding the community outreach were accomplished. She advised that there will be a continuation of community outreach events. Mr. Pope noted that pages 38 and 39 refer to other initiatives such as Conservation Land Acquisition Management Program (CLAM) and Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) to assist with the policies to be created. He provided a brief overview of the mission statement. Mr. Stack commented that the Urban Land Institute (ULI) goals set for West Nassau are the same as this committee and consistent with their recommendations, “to protect from potential negative impacts of future development, be prepared for growth that is coming, recognize economic value, embrace unique character, use market incentive, and engage everyone.”

It was moved by Mr. Stack, seconded by Ms. Morris and unanimously carried to adopt the following mission statement, *“The Western Nassau Historic Preservation Committee exists because there is a genuine desire on the part of our citizenry to ensure what our name implies— Preservation! We enjoy a rich heritage in Western Nassau County. Through purposeful community engagement, we are driven to gain perspective and insight for inevitable growth. The underlying impetus of our goal is to maintain a high quality of life, preserve rural character, and ensure fiscally sustainable and appropriately controlled development.”*

Ms. Burke discussed the adoption of the critical assets and issues. She mentioned that the committee needs to start researching how to define the rules and objectives. She provided a handout regarding the information received from the survey’s conducted. She compiled the top five (5) important area in the categories which are live, work, play, history, and nature and created assets such as natural resources, history, quality of life, health, recreation, jobs and education, and public spaces/ infrastructure. Mr. Pope commented that once the goals and objectives, assets and issues are clarified there will be draft goals which will be presented to the citizens. Ms. Burke also provided a revised calendar for the remaining year, with draft goals and new outreach tools to be provided in May, June, and July 2019. She commented that at the meeting in July there will be a finalization of the goals and objectives with further outreach and presentations to the public. She advised that starting in May the meeting will be on a monthly basis to gather policy documents that will help form the vision plan and the Comprehensive Plan amendments. Mr. Pope commented that the policy formation will assist with the updates to the

Comprehensive Plan and the Land Development Code, and the recommendations made from this committee will be forwarded to the Planning and Zoning Board. Mr. Stack expressed concern regarding having one standard for the whole county when the development on the Westside can be different. Ms. Burke commented that the standards can be reviewed relating to the goals and objectives and policy created; however, the Planning Department also recognizes which structures will work for the county as far as planning for the future. She also stated that the community has expressed that they do not want the same kind of growth as the eastside of the county.

It was moved by Mr. Stack, seconded by Mr. Franklin and unanimously carried to adopt the critical assets and issues.

Ms. Burke briefly discussed the upcoming meeting schedule and outreach events. Mr. Pope commented on the SR200 project and the outreach events to be held in all parts of the county.

Mr. Franklin expressed concerns regarding the garbage. Mr. Pope mentioned that the Board of County Commissioners have been discussing the issue regarding the convenience center located in Callahan. He commented that discussion has included the possibility of creating limits on what can be brought to the convenience center. Mr. Franklin stated that there needs to be some mandatory rules for garbage service. Mr. Pope mentioned that there has been discussion with the Board of County Commissioners that if a garbage provider is selected, it would be a mandatory service for the county. Further discussion followed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.