

Jim Thorpe Planning Commission
March 19, 2019

Meeting called to order: 6:40 p.m.

Members present: Lou Hall, Nancy Porambo, Joanne Klitsch, John McGuire, Joe Micko, Jolene Evans.
Missing: Clem McGinley

Visitors present: Betty Lou McBride

Changes to January minutes:

Add under Readdressing - Jason Shellmammer of Carbon County GIS. The County is aware of the need to have these addresses changed or the Borough could incur liability.

Remove under Burning Ordinance - No burning garbage.

John made the motion to accept the January minutes as amended, seconded by Jolene. Motion carried.

Changes to February minutes:

Add under VRBO February 21, 2019. Remove.....December 21, 2019 minutes –

John made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Joanne. Motion carried.

Clarification of December 18, 2018 Minutes:

The paragraph should have read: "If necessary, easement agreements will be made for the properties that they may anchor into, (the church and the bike shop). Nancy asked if they have had any communication with the church or the bike shop.

Hearing of visitors: Betty Lou McBride

Parking Permits: Betty Lou said the parking problem isn't caused by visitors, its coming from unregistered vacation rentals. There are 23 home rentals. Some are renting several rooms in one building. Of the vacation rentals downtown, they have 123 beds. Of those guests, only 13 have off-street parking. You are making the people who live there responsible to buy a permit. Why penalize them? These people are opening a business with no guidelines.

Lou said it will cost the Borough money to issue them. They have to have a utility bill and a driver's licensed in order to have a permit. It will be a nominal fee for two permits. It will reserve an area on West Broadway that can't be used without a permit. Parking can be restricted from 5 pm to 8 am daily and on weekends.

Betty Lou indicated people coming to the jail can't come to her business if that's the criterion! She is feeling penalized. Five B&B are located on South Avenue. Are they going to have to buy permits? What is being done to keep everyone in town from renting a room? Why are the vacation homes not on our zoning? Lou, they are not B&B's. We are working on the ordinance for the vacation rentals.

Lou said we are waiting for the state to develop the minimum criterion.

Lou invited Mary Lou to come to the meetings that address the vacation homes. She also had concerns about the amount of stone being removed from the Susquehanna Street project.

Status of previous meeting tasks:

Permit Parking – We need to look into a business that is only open on weekends. We will bring this forward to the committee.

Changes to draft of parking permit:

Under Parking Permit Program – **(change)**each referenced address may purchase 2 parking permits.....

Add a comma after lost or stolen on page 2

Under Requirements for Permit: **(change)** a. A current driver's license or state issued ID and any utility bill from the Jim Thorpe Borough reflecting the identified resident and ordinance referenced address.

Lou motioned to accept the changes to the draft of the proposed Permit Parking Ordinance, seconded by Jolene. Motion carried.

Marijuana Distribution

We need to have a discussion as to whether we want to have language to include nurseries, churches and commercial areas, not just residential areas. Lou needs to get permission from Council if we are going to construct an ordinance.

We are hoping to look into Lehighton's ordinance and work from that.

John motioned to adjourn 8:30 p.m., Lou seconded. Motion carried