

**TOWN OF DEWEY-HUMBOLDT
PLANNING & ZONING ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2014, 6:00PM**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE DEWEY-HUMBOLDT PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION WAS HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2014, AT TOWN HALL AT 2735 S. HIGHWAY 69, DEWEY-HUMBOLDT, ARIZONA. CHAIR DEWITT PRESIDED.

1. **Call To Order.** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Opening Ceremonies.**
 - 2.1. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Made.
3. **Roll Call.** Commissioners Claire Clark (absent at roll call, arrived at 6:02 p.m.), Dee Parker, Jeff Siereveld, Barry Smylie and Chair Tammy DeWitt were present.
4. **Disclosure of Ex Parte Contacts.** None.
5. **Informational Reports.** None.

Commissioner Clark arrived at 6:02 p.m.

6. **Planner's Update on current events and activities.** No discussion, deliberation or legal action can occur. None.
7. **Consent Agenda.**

7.1. Minutes. Minutes from the July 10, 2014 Planning & Zoning Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Parker made a motion to approve the July 10, 2014, Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Clark. It was approved unanimously.

8. **Discussion Agenda – Unfinished Business.** Discussion and Possible Action on any issue which was not concluded, was postponed, or was tabled during a prior meeting.

8.1. Review of Town Code of Ordinances Sections regarding “Animals”. Staff report regarding council direction to review the town code sections regarding “animals”. (Continuation from the July 10 P&Z meeting)

Community Development Coordinator, Connie Dedrick, gave an overview on feedback that has come out of an informal meeting with the community on 7/31/14. She spoke on an educational meeting to be held by Yavapai County Sheriff's Office on October 8th.

The commissioners spoke on the importance of obtaining feedback from the community on this issue, and the main concerns pertained to common pets, rather than livestock or exotics.

Public comment was taken.

Cheryl Taylor spoke on the criteria she used for selecting her current residence; new residents wanting more rules and protection; the freedoms to have animals; maintenance being geared toward the health of the animals (state livestock standards); not making those terms too general (open for interpretation).

Victoria Wendt spoke on animals laws affecting many people in the area; concerns with the 6-dog limit; cons of “control” ordinances; she is a heritage breeder who bought her property prior to incorporation; CC&Rs in the Blue Hills.

Alice Nolan spoke on being a hobby breeder for 30 years in Humboldt; complaints should not be anonymous; keep the community rural and make laws sensible.

Ulys Brooks spoke on having his dogs to protect his goats and wanting to keep that right.

Jack Hamilton spoke on the different densities of properties within the Town; neighbors have rights as property owners too; figure out the rules to respect the rights of all and procedures to work through the problems; code enforcement is complaint driven not driving around looking for problems; responsible people will not cause problems; town is trying to do the best for the greatest number of people.

Karen Brooks spoke on talking with neighbors and solving this at the lowest level possible; change in staff and how it has affected her goat business; remove numbers (of animals allowed in the code) but look at maintenance.

Victoria Wendt spoke on a complaint filed against her that she was running a puppy mill and stated she did not think complaints should be anonymous.

Ted Brooks spoke on protecting all property owners (new and established). He spoke on his history in the town, new people moving in to the area trying to change it; town should not allow anonymous complaints.

The commission asked how the complaint process works and whether it is a policy or a decision by council; whether anonymous complaints are legal; recommended a legal opinion on anonymous complaints.

Public comment was taken on this.

Glendeen Hamilton spoke on an issue she had with a neighbor that went to court for final resolution; people should consider rights of both sides of an issue.

Ted Brooks spoke on not limiting the number of animals; maintenance of animals being the problem; researching this issue by species.

Chair DeWitt explained staff will do more research and have more community meetings and will bring back the feedback to P&Z. CDC Dedrick explained she will probably bring that research back in December to the Planning and Zoning commission.

9. Discussion Agenda – New Business. Discussion and Possible Action on matters not previously presented to the Commission.

9.1. Planning and Zoning Meeting Procedure Discussion. Chair DeWitt request to consider establishing an announcement and procedure for running a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

Chair DeWitt spoke on a sample form that the Yavapai County Planning Commission uses. The form allows everyone to have comments, even if they don't want to get up and speak in public. She suggested this is something they could possibly do at P&Z meetings.

Commissioners Clark and Smylie agreed it sounds like a good idea.

Public comment was taken.

Jack Hamilton asked how it will be implemented and if the form has to be filled out in advance or if someone can speak without filling out the form.

Chair DeWitt explained that it won't be required, but will be used as a tool. People can change their minds on speaking. The commission discussed how the form could be used as another tool for the public to contribute their opinions but it would not be mandatory in

order to speak before the commission.

Public comment was taken on this.

Cheryl Taylor spoke on a prior large meeting (on ADU and Home Based Businesses) where a similar form/tool was provided since so many people wanted to give their comments.

Commissioner Clark made a motion to adopt the use of this form at future meetings, seconded by Commissioner Parker. It was approved unanimously.

10. Public Hearing Agenda. None.

11. Comments from the Public.

Cheryl Taylor spoke on the current complaint process being easily abused; how this can affect neighborhoods; having a process in place for maintenance issues similar to the barking dog process.

Alice Nolan spoke on the effects of being complained against; being treated kindly by staff; complaint on her dogs came through a council member.

Karen Brooks spoke on having a more finite program for animal complaints; how long complaints are kept; including more data on complaint form. Chair DeWitt suggested Ms. Brooks present her idea to council at one of their meetings.

Cheryl Taylor spoke on how Child Protective Services (CPS) complaints are handled anonymously but with questions to verify it is a valid complaint.

12. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Tammy DeWitt, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Judy Morgan, Town Clerk