

The TPC held a regular meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 5:00 P.M. via teleconference. The following were in attendance: Chair Suzy Bellamy, Vice-Chair Billie Thompson, Commissioner Angie Garland, Commissioner Walker Whitworth, Commissioner Tara Simmons, Mrs. Connie Tabor, Mr. Christian Hamilton, and Historic Preservation Consultant Mr. Joe Rothwell. Mr. Van Loskoski, Mr. Gary Cortellino, and Mrs. Julie Paysen were also in attendance. Upon a motion by Commissioner Garland and seconded by Commissioner Simmons, the June 18, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved. Upon a motion by Vice-Chairman Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Garland, the January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting Agenda was unanimously approved.

Reports

1) **None**

I. Old Business

A. **None**

II. New Business

- A. **Consideration of Entertainment District Ordinance.** Mrs. Tabor stated at the December 11, 2020 DDA meeting that the DDA unanimously voted to recommend the approval of an Entertainment District Ordinance to the TCC. She also stated that the ABC Board had reviewed the ordinance and had offered no additional comments. A map of the Entertainment District and the ordinance was available for the TPC. Mrs. Tabor stated that, since there would be a Zoning Procedures (ZPL) Hearing at the TCC meeting, City Attorney John Dickerson recommended that the TPC also review the ordinance. In addition to the DDA, Toccoa-Stephens County Tomorrow, a local visioning board, had asked for the establishment of a downtown entertainment district. Mrs. Tabor explained that an Entertainment District is an overlay which allows for downtown patrons to consume alcoholic beverages on city sidewalks and in retail businesses as long as the beverages are obtained from a licensed alcoholic beverage vendor within the bounds of the Entertainment District. Beverages must be displayed in a clear, specially marked plastic 16 ounce cup. Mrs. Tabor explained that the ordinance had been reviewed by City Attorney Dickerson and City Clerk Wheeler and had been found acceptable. Police Chief Mize had also reviewed the Entertainment District Ordinance and found it feasible to patrol from a public safety standpoint. Chairman Bellamy asked if the specialty cup had to be used, as opposed to a simple can or glass bottle. Mrs. Tabor stated that, yes, this was necessary to ensure that beverages were purchased from appropriate vendors. With this, Commissioner Simmons motioned that the Entertainment District ordinance be recommended for approval to the TCC as read. Commissioner Garland seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
- B. **Consideration of Food Truck Ordinance.** Mrs. Tabor stated that, at the December 11, 2020 DDA meeting, the DDA unanimously voted to recommend the approval of a Food Truck Ordinance to the TCC. Since there would be a Zoning Procedures (ZPL) Hearing at the TCC meeting, City Attorney John Dickerson recommended that the TPC also review the ordinance. This ordinance was drafted since there is no ordinance regulating food trucks within the city limits. This ordinance requires the state-mandated use of a commissary for the safe preparation and handling of items to be sold on a food truck. It also requires food trucks to remain up to GA code, and clarifies where food trucks may operate within the city. This ordinance was reviewed by City Attorney Dickerson and City Clerk Wheeler and was found acceptable. Chairman Bellamy asked if there would be a charge for the temporary permits to be issued for special events. Mrs. Tabor said that there would be for certain events. With this, Commissioner Garland motioned that the ordinance be recommended to the TCC as read and submitted. Vice-Chairman Thompson seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.
- C. **Comprehensive Plan Update.** Mr. Rothwell discussed several aspects relating to the upcoming 2021 City of Toccoa Comprehensive Update. He stated that meetings will take place through May, with a public hearing scheduled for the spring. Mr. Rothwell also explained that the final stakeholder review and edits would take place in May. He did note that this timeline could move forward depending on how quickly some items were accomplished. He began discussion on the Mission and Vision Statement for the document. All commissioners stated their approval as read, and Chairman Bellamy asked that updated pictures be included in the document. Mr. Rothwell then moved forward to the stakeholder survey. He explained that a similar survey had been used in Baldwin, and he would like to utilize the same survey for Toccoa. He asked for Planning Commissioners to provide their feedback on this survey by the end of the month. Finally, Mr. Rothwell discussed Needs and Opportunities. Mr. Rothwell stated that further discussion would be held at the next scheduled TPC meeting. Mrs. Tabor will provide accomplishments' lists to Mr. Rothwell. The City must adopt the plan prior to June 30, 2021.

III. Other Business

A. **N/A**

There being no further business, upon a motion made by Vice-Chairman Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Whitworth, the Regular Meeting of the TPC was unanimously adjourned at 5:47 p.m.