

Planning Commission



Minutes of the Thursday, March 20, 2014 Study Session

Members of the Planning Commission

Woods Burnett
Chairman

Leonard Carter, Jr.

Bob Clark

Richard Fletcher

Timothy V. Key

JoAnn McKie

Larry Watts

1. **Call to Order** – The March 20, 2014 study session, having been duly publicized, began at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Chairman Woods Burnett and Commissioners Len Carter, Bob Clark, Richard Fletcher, Tim Key, JoAnn McKie and Larry Watts. Also present were Scott Sterling, AICP, Interim Director of Planning and Development; and Christine DeCamp, AICP, Planner.

2. **Discussion – Application RZT 11-001, Steep Slopes and Mass Grading** – Chairman Burnett provided a brief summary of Planning Commission activity related to steep slope development regulation since 2011. Commissioners discussed the current status of the application, the amount of vacant land in the city and individually stated their objectives in moving forward. Commissioners generally agreed that their primary objectives are to protect city residents from problems such as downstream pollution and soil degradation; to minimize the government's role in steep slope development regulation; and to promote the development of neighborhoods that are in keeping with North Augustans' expectations. Some potential actions were discussed but no final solution was identified.

Chairman Burnett asked Mr. Sterling to propose the topic for inclusion in this year's North August Forward retreat. Chairman Burnett instructed commissioners to each develop a strategy to bring the steep slope development regulation topic back before the City Council and center it on the question "What makes a good neighborhood?" Written strategies are due to Ms. DeCamp no later than April 17th.

3. **Adjourn** – With no objection, the study session adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Sterling, AICP
Interim Director of Planning and Development
Secretary to the Planning Commission