



SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

GATE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

The regular monthly meeting of the Gate City Planning Commission was held Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at Gate City Town Hall at 6:00 pm.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Delany Herron, called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm and asked the secretary to call the roll.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Cassell, Jo Ann Castle, Vickie Roberts Margaret Falin and Delany Herron.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Michele Brooks, Gate City Town Attorney and Gate City Town Manager, Greg Jones

GUESTS PRESENT: None

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

With five (5) voting members present, the requirements for a quorum are met.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION:

No one present.

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the last regular meeting held August 2, 2016 were presented.

Motion made by Jo Ann Castle and seconded by Vickie Roberts to adopt the minutes from August 2, 2016, as presented.

VOTING AYE: Roger Cassell, Jo Ann Castle, Vickie Roberts, Margaret Falin and Delany Herron.

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINING: None

MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS:

(A) **SECRETARY:** Nothing to report

B) COMMITTEES:

- 1) Comprehensive Plan: Nothing to report.
- 2) Land Use: Committee met at The Gateway Park site to begin a development plan for placement of tables, a gazebo and the Virginia Is For Lovers 'Love' sign.
- 3) Subdivision: Nothing to report.
- 4) Zoning: Nothing to report.

5) Capital Improvements: Nothing to report.

A) **ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:**

Report deferred to Unfinished Business.

B) **TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER:**

Nothing to report.

C.) **GATE CITY TOWN ATTORNEY:**

Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1) The Gate City Tourism Zone ordinance is still under review and will be ready for second reading at the next regular meeting.
- 2) After brief discussion, Jo Ann Castle made a motion that the proposed development plan for Gateway Park, as outlined in the Land Use Committee's on-site visit report and the concept drawings provided by Mr. Jones, be approved and that construction begin as soon as possible.

Motion seconded by Vickie Roberts.

VOTING AYE: Roger Cassell, Jo Ann Castle, Vickie Roberts, Margaret Falin and Delany Herron.

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: None.

ABSTAINING: None

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Jones has been informed that it is very likely that the historical markers located at the present V-DOT road side park could be moved to Gateway Park. He also will contact Heart of Appalachia concerning the moving of the information kiosk.

- 3) Greg Jones reported that the land that will become a dog park has been cleared and is ready for a second visit to begin a development plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT:

With nothing further to discuss, a motion for adjournment was made by Vickie Roberts and seconded by Margaret Falin.

VOTING AYE: Jo Ann Castle, Vickie Roberts, Delany Herron, Margaret Falin and Roger Cassell.

VOTING NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINING: None

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Secretary, Jo Ann Castle

Delany Herron, Chairman
Approved 9-6-2016



GATE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

August 25, 2016

LAND USE COMMITTEE REPORT

On Thursday, August 24, 2016, the Gate City Planning Commission Land Use Committee, Vickie Roberts and Jo Ann Castle met with Gate City Town Manager, Greg Jones at the site of the new Gateway Park on US 23-N.

The purpose of this meeting was to begin the on-site development of the park, beginning with determining the location for the Virginia Is For Lovers “LOVE” sign.

We first noticed that the parking area may not be large enough to permit the safe movement of vehicles in and out. This will have to be examined further at a later date.

To place the sign in the most visible location for both North and South bound travelers and in the safest site for visitors, the choice was to place the sign, centered 12-14 feet forward of the two locust trees near the middle of the plot.

Beyond that decision, we considered a place for picnic tables. In the back right corner, there are three locust trees in a triangle but sufficiently separated to allow tables to be placed near the trees in such a way as to provide some shade for users. We believe that a covered gazebo, with tables, similar to the one at Grogan Park, would fit well to the right of the LOVE sign and slightly back toward the fenced area. (Trash receptacles will be needed.)

We discussed the possibility of requesting that the information kiosk, currently located on the V-DOT traveler’s rest area across from the old Gateway Restaurant property, be moved onto Gateway Park. It could be placed on the left end behind the parking area, visible to travelers and easily accessible. We examined the kiosk and determined that though it appears to be in good condition, it is not being maintained. There were no maps, brochures or leaflets. There were some very dated posters. Mr. Jones will try to determine the owner of the kiosk. (8-29-16: Vickie Roberts spoke with Pam Cox of Scott County Tourism and she is completely agreeable with our moving the information kiosk to Gateway Park).

The question arose concerning the possibility that travelers might not pull into the park but rather stop along the side of the roadway. To prevent this, Vickie Roberts suggested that split rail fencing could be installed along the roadside boundary. V-DOT might be willing to install NO PARKING signs.

Signage has not been considered but Jo Ann Castle offered the name “Gate City’s GATEWAY PARK, est. 2016” printed on the oblong shaped sign used as part of the Town’s logo.

Mr. Jones noted that V-DOT has plans to develop the property across from the existing V-DOT rest stop into a park-and-ride. They might consider moving the large historical signs to Gateway Park to allow V-DOT to re-purpose the existing rest area. The front property boundary on the North side of Gateway Park would provide a suitable location for the signs.