

Minutes: Russell Township Zoning Commission
Russell Town Hall
May 19, 2008

Present: Richard E. Snyder, Chairman
Bruce Murphy
Donna Weiss Carson
Ben Kotowski
Wendy Bruzas
Diana Steffen, Secretary

Also in attendance: Jim Dickinson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and residents as shown. Mr. Machnics was absent due to illness.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m., and introduced and welcomed new Zoning Commission member Wendy Bruzas who replaces Betsy Rader.

MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2008 – *Ms. Weiss Carson made the motion to accept the minutes as written, Mr. Murphy seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Ms. Bruzas abstained.)*

FOOD SERVICE/PERMITTED USES IN C-S ZONE – Mr. Snyder said he has spoken to the owners of the Shell Station and they are not going to pursue food service due to the expense of the sewer line. Mr. Snyder also said he discussed Mr. Murphy's list of questions for the Prosecutor's Office with David Dietrich, who recommended the Commission reduce the number of questions in order to obtain answers quicker from legal counsel Rebecca Schlag. Mr. Snyder said that if they continue to look into permitting restaurants in the C-S zone they should also review the permitted uses since the list is extremely limited.

He asked if they wished to continue working on this topic now that the Shell Station owners have dropped their request. After a lengthy discussion the Commission agreed to continue working on food service, but did not decide whether to initiate an amendment or whether to have it ready in case another request is made in the next few years. They then worked on the list of questions, after which Mr. Snyder said he would consolidate the list to send to the Geauga County Planning Commission and the Prosecutor's Office.

SALE OF ALCOHOL – Mr. Snyder had obtained from the Board of Elections two separate results of issues on the ballot regarding the sale of alcohol in the Township. In 1949 residents had voted to ban the sale of alcohol, both retail and by the glass. In 1962 residents had voted not to permit the sale of beer. In order for Circle K or another retail store to sell alcohol of any kind they would have to go to the State Liquor Control Board and the County Board of Elections to put the request on the ballot. Mr. Snyder noted that each quadrant of the S.R. 306/87 C-S zone is in a different precinct, and only the precinct in which the store was located would vote.

