PICKENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES

of

May 9, 2022

6:30pm

PICKENS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING Main Conference Room

NOTICE OF MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING: Pursuant to Section 30-4-80 of the S.C. Code of Laws, annual notice of this Commission's meetings was provided by January 1, 2022 via the Pickens County Website and posted next to the Offices of the County Planning Department. In addition, the agenda for this meeting was posted outside the meeting place (Pickens County Administration Building Bulletin Board) and was emailed to all persons, organizations, and news media requesting notice. Notice for the public hearings was published in the *Pickens County Courier*, posted on the properties subject of public hearing(s), and emailed to all persons, organizations, and news media requesting notice pursuant to Section 1205(d)(1) of the Pickens County Unified Development Standards Ordinance.

1		DEDO	DDEGE	
	MIH	IK-P	PRESE	M .
	IVILLIA		LIVEOL	u .

- 2 Bobby Ballentine, Chairman
- 3 Gary Stancell, Vice Chairman
- 4 Phil Smith
- 5 Bobbie Langley
- 6 Jon Humphrey
- 7 David Cox

8

9 STAFF PRESENT:

- 10 Les Hendricks, County Attorney
- 11 Ray Holliday, County Planner
- 12 Allison Fowler, Community & Tourism Development Director

13

Welcome and Call to Order

14 15 16

Mr. Ballentine, the Presiding Official, called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

17 18

Mr. Ballentine asked those in attendance to join in a moment of silence and for the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

19 20

Mr. Ballentine asked for the members of the Commission to introduce themselves.

21 22

Motion to add Executive Session to the Agenda

23 24 25

26

27

Mr. Ballentine stated that he has been informed by the County Attorney that he needs to address the commission in executive session for a legal briefing regarding a land use suspension issued in 2016 against MRR Pickens, LLC. This needs to be done prior to the County Council meeting next Monday, May 16, 2022. If we want to address this tonight, then we will need to have a 2/3 vote of the Commission to do so and find that exigent circumstances exist. The exigent circumstance is that the Commission does not have a meeting scheduled until after the County Council meeting in which they need to hear from us before addressing the topic.

Mr. Ballentine asked for a motion. Ms. Langley motioned to add Executive Session to the agenda, Mr. Cox seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

32 33 34

Mr. Ballentine stated that Executive Session will be added that to the end of the official agenda after the Public Hearings.

 Mr. Ballentine called for corrections or for a motion regarding the minutes of the April 11, 2022 meeting.

 Mr. Stancell made a motion to approve the April 11 minutes. Mr. Humphrey provided a second. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Mr. Ballentine called for corrections or for a motion regarding the minutes of the April 18, 2022 meeting. Mr. Humphrey made a motion to approve the minutes once the spelling of his name was corrected on page 4, line 11 and line 13. Mr. Stancell seconded the motion. The motion, with the noted changes, passed unanimously (6-0).

Public Comments

There were no public comments provided.

Public Hearings

Mr. Ballentine opened the public hearing portion of the meeting and called for the first case being heard. Mr. Ballentine stated that since the first three cases are all the same owner, they may be presented at the same time, but the Commission would vote on them separately.

Mr. Ballentine explained that the Commission will hear from the presenters and once they are done and have a chance to ask questions, anyone opposed may speak on the project. The presenters will have a chance for rebuttal.

 LU-22-0006 Land Use Review for a 15 site RV Park and Campground on approximately 12 acres of a larger 183 acre tract. The subject property is located on Fruit Mountain Road, Easley. The applicant is Carolina Preserve Group, LLC. The property owners of record are Chrome Real Estate LLC and Victoria Anthony. TMS# 5009-16-93-2137, 5009-20-91-2303

SD-22-0002 Subdivision Land Use for 40 lots of a larger 78 lot, single-family residential development located on Fruit Mountain Road, Easley.
The proposed development is located on approximately 102.71 acres of a larger 183 acre development. The applicant is Carolina Preserve Group, LLC. The property owners of record are Chrome Real Estate LLC and Victoria Anthony. TMS# 5009-16-93-2137, 5009-20-91-2303

SD-22-0003 Subdivision Land Use for 38 lots of a larger 78 lot, single-family residential development located on Fruit Mountain Road, Easley.
The proposed development is located on approximately 55.14 acres of a larger 183 acre development. The applicant is Carolina Preserve Group, LLC. The property owner of record is Victoria Anthony. TMS# 5009-16-93-2137

Mr. Jim Anthony presented the project for Carolina Preserve Group, LLC. Mr. Anthony explained that the property is a very unusual piece of land that had a lot of four-wheeler use. The plan for the project was to solve the erosion problem and so they did a forestry plan. Mr. Anthony explained that Carolina Preserve Group, LLC has a successful low-density development in Marietta called Riverstead. This project is planned after that project with trails, gardens and green areas. Mr. Anthony stated that they do not plan to do an RV park, however, they do plan to have a low impact plan with one or two small cottages. They see the project as an opportunity to create an icon development for Pickens County. Mr. Anthony stated that they are working on the full business plan.

Mr. Smith asked what is a green area.

Mr. Anthony explained it as a green space.

Mr. Anthony stated that there would be 90' lots with curb and gutter.

Mr. Stancell had a question about the sewer. Is that common?

Mr. Anthony stated that they plan to go through DHEC and get a permit to pump to another area.

Ms. Langley asked if the project was being designed as a green development.

Mr. Anthony stated that the number of homesites average about 2 acres, but he is not familiar with the requirement to be green. Mr. Anthony stated they will have a HOA in place.

Mr. Smith asked if they plan to have someone on site managing the property, specifically the campground and cabins.

Mr. Anthony stated that whether they live on site or not, yes someone will be managing the property. He went on to say they have considered corporate outings in the future.

Mr. Smith asked what is the plan for the additional acreage at the top of the mountain.

Mr. Anthony stated that a corporate experience space is in the works.

Mr. Smith asked if they plan to have just one access road to both sides. Are there plans for a second access.

Mr. Anthony responded no, there will be one access directly across Fruit Mountain that will be gated.

Mr. Ballentine asked for any additional questions.

Mr. Ballentine asked what range the square footage of houses will be.

Mr. Roy Costner answered that they will be closer to 400SF on average, more like the Riverstead development.

Mr. Timothy Bunch asked how the infrastructure will be handled. He stated he lives on Fruit Mountain Road and can barely handle the traffic that is on it now.

Mr. Anthony stated that if there is a traffic study required they would do it. He further stated that 100 cars a days is probably an exaggeration.

Mr. Bunch stated that 2 cars per house could add more than 100 cars.

Mr. Duane Bradshaw asked if the project included a sewage system. He stated he lives right by Fruit Mountain Road.

Mr. Cox made a motion to approve SD-22-0003 as presented. Mr. Stancell seconded.

Mr. Ballentine asked if all in favor. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Mr. Ballentine clarified that SD-22-0003 is on the east side of the road.

SD-22-0003

Mr. Ballentine asked for a motion.

Minutes of May 9 2022 Page 4 of 11

Mr. Youngblood responded that yes, it will stay the same as a gravel road.

Mr. Simmons asked if the easement to the Ross's property would stay the same.

Mr. Simmons asked if they are developing the property for Sarah.

Mr. Youngblood stated that they are purchasing and developing it. Ms. Langley asked what size houses are you planning to develop.

 Mr. Youngblood responded that he was unsure, but probably 2,500 square feet or better.

Mr. Ross asked if they are planning to subdivide the remaining 40 acres. He asked the Commission if they are only asking for 10 acres, does this give them permission to develop the other 40.

Mr. Brandon Ross, 3481 Six Mile Highway stated that he owns the easement and it's the only access to his property.

Mr. Ballentine responded that they would have to come back to Planning Commission for approval before any future development.

Mr. Ballentine stated that if the easement is in your deed that's it forever.

Mr. Ross asked if his easement be able to give access to the future lots.

Mr. Holliday stated that as the property was further subdivided, it would be up to Mr. Ross to decide the maintenance.

Ms. Langley asked if Mr. Ross could gate it off.

Mr. Holliday responded that if Mr. Ross is the only property owner, he can gate it off.

Mr. Hendricks advised that Mr. Ross needs a legal opinion on the easement before making any decisions.

Mr. Youngblood stated that in going through all of the deeds, it looks like Mr. Ross is one of three property owners that have been granted use of the easement. If we were going to use that access to build a subdivision, we'd have to turn it in to an actual road. We would need to meet county specs and create a road. As far as accessing the back, we would have the right to cross it, but we have no plans of putting more development in the back.

Mr. Ronnie Collins 3466-3400 Six Mile Highway - stated that a lot of the concerns brought up have been addressed. He asked if this is approved, how much could they do later. Is the Commission giving future approval.

Mr. Ballentine stated it's only for the 10 lots.

Mr. Collins stated he had some other questions in regards to 2008-2009 time, rates changed and we had several housing developments left vacant or unattended. Is there a plan in place so we know this will get completed, so it's not half done, vacant lots across the street.

Mr. Youngblood responded that no infrastructure would be done. Once the builder buys the lot, our hope is that it will be finished but they cannot make any guarantees.

Mr. Collins stated that assuming all are on the main road, all are 1 acre lots with single-family homes. We would be worried about 10 houses that can drop our land value. Mr. Collins asked is there a way to have a minimum square footage so we knew it would be at least that or greater.

Mr. Youngblood stated there is no minimum square footage on the deed.

Mr. Josh Arnett of 3482 Six Mile Highway stated that there is not a lot of specificity in the entrance. He asked are they coming in from Archery Club Road.

Mr. Ballentine responded that all enter on Six Mile Highway and will have a shared driveway for every two houses.

Mr. Arnett stated he was under the impression that Mr. Youngblood would be building and not selling to builders. He stated that gives leeway to builders.

Mr. Ballentine responded that a minimum of 4 driveways would be 6 cuts.

Mr. Smith requested to amend the motion to a minimum of 4 shared driveways.

Mr. Cox requested clarification on whether the builder have to buy two lots in order to build on either side.

Mr. Holliday stated that a shared driveway has a 20' easement that must be indicated on the plat.

Mr. Humphrey commented that the first builder puts in the easement and the second builder would have to agree.

Mr. Holliday responded as to how it happens he can't say.

Mr. Cox stated that the builder buying one lot would have to ensure a right of way.

Minutes of May 9 2022

- Mr. Youngblood responded that they anticipate one buyer and are not concerned with that issue.

 Mr. Ballentine requested a second. Mr. Cox seconded.
- Mr. Ballentine asked for a vote on the amendment of the motion for the first condition, minimum of 4 shared drives. All in favor, amended motion passed unanimously (6-0).
- Mr. Cox asked for clarification if the basis of 2500 square feet is based on comments from the community. Mr. Cox wondered if that is consistent for how the Commission does business.
- Mr. Stancell stated if the landowner wants to do it, fine, but he is against the Commission going down that road.
- Mr. Cox said the Commission doesn't want to set that precedent.
- Ms. Langley stated the Commission should look at that for every item and need to consider the precedent.
- Mr. Cox stated the Commission shouldn't be in the business of dictating home size.
- Mr. Ballentine stated the Commission must come to a consensus and amend the motion for the second condition.
- Ms. Langley requested the guarantee that it's only single family homes.
- Mr. Ballentine said the Commission can amend it to say that but the builder stated in letter of intent that he is doing single family homes.
- Mr. Smith stated that the second condition was a minimum of 2,500 square feet. He is prepared to remove that condition.
- Mr. Ballentine stated Mr. Smith will need to withdraw the first motion and make a substitute motion.
- Mr. Smith requested to remove the original motion.
- Mr. Ballentine asked if there is a second to remove the motion. Mr. Stancell seconded. Mr. Ballentine asked all in favor. Motion passed unanimously (6-0).
- Mr. Ballentine asked for a substitute motion.
- Mr. Smith made a motion with one condition to allow a minimum of 4 shared driveways on Six Mile Highway. Mr. Stancell seconded. Mr. Ballentine asked if all in favor. The motion to approve with the stated condition passed unanimously (6-0).
 - 5. SDV-22-0003 Kent Unruh requesting a subdivision variance from the Pickens County development standards regarding the minimum lot size of a parcel when served by septic and public water; to create two tracts with less than 0.50 acres. The property is located at 203 Old Easley Pickens Highway. The property owner of record is Kent and Susan Unruh. TMS# 5009-06-49-9331
- Mr. Ballentine asked for the presenter on the case to step forward.
- Mr. Kent Unruh, property owner, presented the case. He states that he and his wife purchased a property that is 94/100 of an acre. The property has a mobile home and a single family house. He stated their desire is to split the property directly in half and all utilities are separate. Mr. Unruh stated they wish to put in a new driveway for the mobile home off Old Easley Pickens Highway. Mr. Unruh stated that each property would come out at 47/50 of an acre.

Minutes of May 9 2022

Mr. Ballentine asked for any questions from the commission.

Mr. Ballentine closed the public hearing at 7:49pm.

- Mr. Ballentine asked if there is a motion on the table.

 Mr. Cox made a motion to approve SDV-22-0004 as presented. Mr. Stancell seconded.

 Mr. Ballentine asked for discussion.
- Mr. Smith asked the Commission to look at page 4 of 5, item numbers 6 and 7.
- Mr. Smith stated that the current motion isn't asking them to do that and number 7 (Plat Certification) has to go in the motion.
- Mr. Holliday stated that the county prefers the surveyor place that on the plat before approval or staff can include a sticker with the notation before recording.
- Mr. Ballentine asked if anyone wants to amend it or change it.
- Ms. Langley made an amendment that items 6 and 7 be included.
- Mr. Ballentine stated there was no second, so the amendment dies.
- Mr. Ballentine stated there are no other questions and asked if all in favor. The motion to approve SDV-22-0004 passed 5-1.

Executive Session

- Mr. Stancell made a motion to enter Executive Session. Mr. Smith seconded. All approved.
- The Commission entered Executive Session at 7:53pm.
- Mr. Ballentine called the meeting back to order at 8:23pm.
- Mr. Ballentine asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2022-03.
- Mr. Cox made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-03. Mr. Stancell seconded.
- Mr. Ballentine asked for any discussion. The motion to approve Resolution 2022-03 passed unanimously (6-0).
- Any staff discussion? Elections at next meeting in June. Do it before we go into session. Motion to adjourn. Smith motion. Langley second. 8:27pm.

Commissioners and Staff Discussion

- Mr. Ballentine asked if there was any staff discussion.
- Mr. Ballentine reminded the Commission and staff that elections of officers will take place at the June meeting before going in to session.

Adjourn

 There being no additional matters to be taken up by the Commission, Mr. Smith motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Langley seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.

1	Submitted by:	
2		
3		
4	1	4 1 - 1
5	Am Pon	9/19/22
6	Secretary	Date
7		
8		
9	Approved by:	
10	•	
11		
12	11 (11	
13	Cora Strul	Jm 13 2022
14	Chairman)	Date

RESOLUTION 2022-003

A RESOLUTION OF THE PICKENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDING THAT THE COUNTY ATTORNEY SEND A LETTER LIFTING THE SUSPENSION OF THE LAND USE PERMIT HELD BY MRR PICKENS, LLC CONTINGENT UPON PICKENS COUNTY COUNCIL ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MRR PICKENS, LLC FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, TERMS OF OPERATION AND SALE OF THE PROPOSED LANDFILL LOCATED IN PICKENS COUNTY

WHEREAS, this Pickens County Planning Commission (the "Commission") issued a letter to MRR Pickens, LLC on January 11,2016 suspending the land use permit previously issued by this commission;

WHEREAS, subsequent to suspension of the land use permit MRR Pickens, LLC and the County of Pickens and several, present or former, individual members of the Commission have engaged in protracted litigation;

WHEREAS, the Commission is informed and believes that the parties after extensive negotiation are nearing a resolution to their differences such that the litigation would be resolved;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Pickens County Planning Commission that the Pickens County Attorney is directed, contingent upon approval by the Pickens County Council of a settlement agreement between the parties, to issue a letter lifting the suspension of the land use permit of MRR Pickens, LLC.

PICKENS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

BY: Robert Ballentine, Chairman, District 1

BY: Gary Stancell, Vice Chairman, District 3

BY: Bobbie Langley, District 2

BY: Philip Smith, District 4

BY: Jon Humphrey, District 5

BY: David Cox, District 6

THIS GARY OF MAY, 2022

ATTEST: Roy Falled

Ray Holliday, County Blanner