

# PLANNING & ZONING BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 7, 2011 7:30 P.M. TOWN OF LAKE PARK

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Due to resignation of P&Z Board Chair Tim Stevens upon his election to the Town Commission, and the absence of Vice-Chair Judith Thomas at the beginning of the meeting, the Planning & Zoning Board Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Board Member Robin Maibach.

#### **ROLL CALL**

18	Vice-Chair Judith Thomas	Present (arrived late at 7:45 p.m.)
19	Robin Maibach	Present
20	Natalie Schneider	Present
21	Roger Michaud	Present
22	Edie McConville	Present
23	Mason Brown	Excused
24	Anthony Bontrager	Excused

#### APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIR

Town Attorney Baird stated that the first order of business this evening was to elect a temporary Chair for this Meeting, and also to elect a permanent Chair due to resignation of the Chair Tim Stevens upon his election to the Town Commission. Mr. Baird explained that since the Vice-Chair was not currently present, that the Board could choose either to temporarily appoint a Chair for this meeting, or vote to elect a Chair for the entire term. Since the Vice-Chair was not present, the P&Z Board chose to appoint a temporary Chair for this meeting only. Mr. Baird opened up the floor for nominations. Board Member McConville nominated Board Member Maibach and Board Member Schneider seconded the motion. There being no other nominations, the Town Attorney asked for a show of hands of those in favor of Board Member Maibach as temporary Chair for this meeting only, and the vote was as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Robin Maibach	X	
Natalie Schneider	X	
Roger Michaud	X	
Edie McConville	X	

The vote was unanimous and Board Member Maibach was appointed as the Temporary Chair.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Temporary Chair Maibach requested a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Board Member McConville made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Board Member Michaud, and the vote was as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Robin Maibach	X	
Natalie Schneider	X	
Roger Michaud	X	
Edie McConville	X	

## The Motion carried 4-0 and the Agenda was unanimously approved.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Temporary Chair Maibach requested a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 2, 2011, Planning & Zoning Board Meeting as submitted. Board Member McConville asked a procedural question of the Town Attorney, that is, if it would be appropriate for her to vote on the approval of the Minutes, considering that she was not serving on the Board at the time of the May 2, 2011, Planning & Zoning Board Meeting. The Town Attorney indicated that it would be appropriate for her to vote. Board Member McConville then made a motion to approve the Minutes as submitted, and the motion was seconded by Board Member Michaud. The vote was as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Robin Maibach	X	
Natalie Schneider	X	
Roger Michaud	X	
Edie McConville	X	

The Motion carried 4-0 and the Minutes of the May 2, 2011, Planning & Zoning Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. REZONING AND SITE PLAN REVIEW FOR MARINA VILLAGE P.U.D. for approximately 5,500 square feet of restaurant, an 18-hole mini-golf course and 7,023 square feet of office space. Applicant: Leasing of South Florida, Inc.

Nadia DiTommaso, Community Development Director, announced that the P&Z Public Hearing would be a public meeting and allow for public comments, but that staff is requesting that the meeting be structured as a Workshop for the following reasons:

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1) In order to have the opportunity to work with the Applicant on outstanding issues in order for Staff to be able to comfortably render a recommendation to the P&Z Board: and

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2) To provide the public and P&Z Board Members with additional time to review and voice their opinions.

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Ms. Di Tommaso explained however, that due to the strong public interest in this project and the fact that it was advertised as a Public Hearing, that members of the public wishing to address the P&Z Board would be permitted the customary three minutes to comment. She further explained that at this point, the application is not complete, but that the Applicant had requested that the Site Plan be presented to the P&Z Board as submitted. Ms. DiTommaso stated that Staff is requesting that at the conclusion of the presentations and the public comments, that the P&Z Board continue the Public Hearing to its regularly scheduled December 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting, so that the Project does not have to be re-advertised, unless the Board can determine a date and time certain in order to meet sooner.

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## Ms. Di Tommaso presented the following facts of the proposed application:

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Location: 250' north of Silver Beach Road and between North Federal Highway and Lake Shore Drive

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Existing Zoning: Underlying C1 (Commercial) and R2A (Residential) 100

101 Proposed Zoning: Planned Unit Development (P.U.D.), as outlined in the Town Code, is a 102 more flexible zoning district which allows for the application of waivers in order to deviate 103 from the standard property development regulations and allows for the relaxation of the land

104 development regulations which govern the underlying zoning districts. The P.U.D. can 105 utilize all of the underlying zoning districts within the P.U.D.

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Existing Land Use Designation: Commercial/Residential and the application does not 107 propose to change this land use designation.

108 Size of Property: Approximately 1.97 acres

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Ms. Di Tommaso explained that there are various aspects to this application - both the uses being proposed within the P.U.D. boundaries, as well as the uses being proposed outside of the P.U.D. boundaries within the Town's Right-of-Way.

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# Included Within the Official PUD Boundaries:

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• Conversion of a 3,100 square foot home into a 3,100 square foot restaurant, with an additional 1,200 square foot Tiki Bar, and the rear of the property is proposed as an 18-hole outdoor miniature golf course recreational facility

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• Existing professional and yacht sales offices

# Areas Outside Official P.U.D. Boundaries Within Town Right-of-Way

• The Town Attorney has been asked to opine on these uses within the Town Right-of-Way, and the P&Z Board has been given a memorandum from the Town Attorney in response to this matter. Ultimately, the Town Commission is the governing body of these areas. These areas are platted for the perpetual use of the public, and must show public benefit. This Application is still under review by the Town, but is it ultimately Staff's recommendation to approve these uses due to their satisfactory public benefit and that they will continue to be for the use of the public. The P&Z Board can then make their recommendation to the Town Commission, who will in turn decide whether or not to approve these uses, after which if they are approved the Town Attorney would prepare a License Agreement between the Applicant and the Town for these uses.

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# Areas in the Right-of-Way

(1) Parking areas in front of 220 Lake Shore Drive and along the south side of 126 Lake Shore Drive

• Contrary to the Staff Report, the Applicant <u>is</u> recommending that these areas be left open to the perpetual use of the public. Staff will be working with the Applicant on the engineering of these spaces and justification of the public benefit.

(2) Fire-Pit and Passenger Drop-Off areas associated with the restaurant use on the western side of the property

The Applicant explains these areas will be available to the public for extra viewing of the Marina. Staff will be working with the Applicant on this justification in order to incorporate additional pedestrian connectivity throughout the proposed area.

(3) Tiki Bar to be incorporated within the overall pedestrian promenade on the east side of Lake Shore Drive (WOULD REQUIRE ROAD CLOSURE TO VEHICULAR USE ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF LAKE SHORE DRIVE AND REMAIN OPEN TO PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC; WEST SIDE PROPOSED TO REMAIN OPEN TO TRAFFIC DRIVING SOUTH)

• The Applicant explains this will provide an additional gathering area to the public. Staff will be working with the Applicant on this justification in order to incorporate additional pedestrian connectivity throughout the proposed area.

The Applicant is also requesting eight (8) Marina slips on Lake Shore Drive.

• Staff will incorporate this request into the License Agreement should the Town Commission wish to grant this request.

Ms. Di Tommaso explained that the Applicant is proposing four (4) waivers within the P.U.D. Zoning District, as follows:

(1) NOISE

The Applicant is proposing to maintain 65 decibels until 11:00 p.m. from Sunday through Thursday, and until 1:00 a.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings on Commercial property.

Staff is working with the Applicant to determine the impacts this will have on neighboring residential properties, providing the Applicant has included a buffering wall and landscaping on both sides. Town Code limits the decibel levels on residential properties to 55 db before 7:00 p.m., and 50 db between 7:00 p.m. - 7 a.m.

## (2) PARKING

- 18 hole mini golf course = 36 spaces (2 spaces per hole). Board Member McConville questioned if a market study had been conducted to determine whether or not a mini golf course would be viable in this area. She recommended that a market study be considered.
- 5,500 square foot restaurant & tiki bar = 66 spaces (12 spaces per 1,000 square feet)
- 7,023 square foot office space = 36 spaces (5 spaces per 1,000 square feet)
- TOTAL PARKING SPACES REQUIRED = 138 SPACES
- The Applicant is proposing 71 spaces onsite and 67 spaces (49%) offsite. Town Code allows for up to 50% to be provided via onsite valet. A waiver is needed to allow 49% to be offsite valet. Staff is working with the Applicant to identify valet areas and to define queuing and impacts in the passenger drop-off area in front of the fire-pit area, as well as traffic circulation patterns throughout the area.

# (3) SETBACKS (2 WAIVERS)

• The side-yard setback on the existing single-family home structure is non-conforming to current Code. The Code requires a 10 foot setback, and the structure is set back only 3.23 feet.

• The Applicant is also proposing a waiver for the front yard set-back for a Tiki Bar to be located directly in front of the restaurant, encroaching on to the front-yard setback and would only leave 10.7 feet, instead of the 30 foot requirement. A separation side wall with landscaping is being proposed on both sides of the restaurant. These waivers will create additional street connectivity and Staff is working with the Applicant to add additional pedestrian connections in the front area of the proposed tiki bar to satisfy this waiver request.

# (4) OPEN SPACE

The P.U.D. Ordinance requires that the Applicant set aside 5% of the gross land area for public parks and/or recreation. This project is roughly under 2 acres and given

the nature of the proposal which identifies several areas that are devoted to recreation, public access and open space, Staff feels this provision can be alternately satisfied and is in favor of this waiver.

In summary, Ms. Di Tommaso stated that Staff feels that this Workshop is highly beneficial and a work-in-progress, and that we look forward to hearing from the Board Members and the public on their comments and concerns. She thanked the members of the public who have contacted her, offering a lot of constructive comments and suggestions which have been incorporated into this presentation.

Staff will continue to work with the Applicant on pedestrian connectivity; noise waiver justifications; directional signage throughout the site; clearly defined valet areas; revisions to the survey as requested by the Town Engineer; engineering of the proposed "public" parking spaces in front of 220 Lake Shore Drive and on the south side of 126 Lake Shore Drive; detailed FDOT roadway standard information for driveway entrances along North Federal Highway, including access and details to existing parking spaces off of North Federal Highway, as well as other items mentioned throughout this presentation.

In conclusion of her presentation, Ms. Di Tommaso stated that Staff hopes to bring a more detailed application to the P&Z Board in the near future. Staff is recommending a continuance of the Application to the next regularly scheduled P&Z Board Meeting on December 5, 2011, or, Staff is available to meet on either November 21<sup>st</sup> or November 29<sup>th</sup> if the Board Members and the Town Attorney are available. Ms. Di Tommaso stated that it is important to schedule a date and time for the next P&Z Board Meeting. Ms. Di Tommaso stated that she is open for questions and that the Applicant is present.

There were several items discussed by Members of the Board, including security measures; valet off-site; hours of operation of the mini golf course; lighting/foot candles; how the proposed property will affect residents; outdoor dining at the tiki bar; hedging/landscaping along both sides of the proposed walls and landscaped parking islands; interior parking; and thatched roofing.

The Town Attorney recommended that, as a point of order, Board Members should hold their questions until after the Applicant makes their presentation, as many of their questions would be answered during the presentation. The Town Attorney mentioned that, as a matter of procedure and with no motion required, Vice-Chair Thomas could take over the meeting as Chair. Vice-Chair Thomas invited the Applicant to make their presentation to the Board.

#### PRESENTATION BY APPLICANT

Corey O'Gorman, of Place Planning & Design in North Palm Beach, introduced himself to the Planning & Zoning Board. He expressed that they have no formal presentation for this evening, but that they were here to listen to the comments of the P&Z Board and the public. Mr. O'Gorman stated that Town Staff did a good job of providing an overview of the proposed Project. Mr. O'Gorman indicated that plans had been submitted to Staff some time ago, and more recently, in order to complete the application, a justification statement

was submitted, which generated comments last week from Staff and Town Consultants. In response to the comments, they directed their design team to begin making revisions to the plans which they had hoped would be ready to be presented this evening. Mr. O'Gorman apologized to the Board that, regrettably, the plans were not completed in time. He expressed that the Staff comments in Staff Report had been reviewed and that the Applicant is prepared to work with Staff and Town consultants in order to satisfactorily address the issues. Tonight, if they can answer questions, they will or bring back answers at a follow-up meeting. Mr. O'Gorman stated that their hope is to be able to address all comments and concerns to the satisfaction of Town Staff and the Town Commission, so that they can make a positive recommendation at an upcoming meeting. He stated that the developer and the property owner/applicant are both present and are happy to answer questions from the Board and the public.

Vice-Chair Thomas requested that comments from the public be heard at this time and that upon conclusion of the public comments, the P&Z Board will have the opportunity to pose their questions and comments to the Applicant.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following individuals addressed the Planning & Zoning Board:

#### Jim Lloyd – 220 Lake Shore Drive

Mr. Lloyd expressed several concerns, including the fact that there are no plans ready to be presented by the Applicant is symptomatic of what is going on with the entire project; that it is interesting that there has been no mention made of an inter-local agreement; that the purchase of a piece of property, which was in foreclosure and appraised at \$626,000, was purchased by the Town for \$2.4 million; that the project will bring noise & light to nearby residents; and that the proposed promenade is going to require a \$5 million grant, and where is this money going to come from? Mr. Lloyd suggested that the Town needs to take a step back and look at this more closely.

#### John Beall

Mr. Beall stated that he has been a commercial and residential realtor in the area since 1996. Mr. Beall expressed that the Town of Lake Park has done a great job with the CRA District and with the local events held in Kelsey Park and at the Marina. He stated that the Marina is a commercial entity by nature, and the property owned by the Developer abuts the Marina, that the project would be a natural tie in and would enhance the Marina area. Mr. Beall does not believe that the project would hurt the surrounding property values, that the proposed mini golf course is high end, and would provide good entertainment for local families. He wholly supports the project and thinks that it will be a great addition to the Town.

#### Brent A. Headberg, PSM

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Mr. Brent Headberg stated that he has been a licensed professional surveyor in the State of Florida for 25 years, working in the engineering, planning & surveying business for over 40 years and has vast experience on these types of projects, both on the private and public side. Mr. Headberg stated that upon receipt of notification of this Project in the mail, he had requested the telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of the Board Members and had written an e-mail expressing his position about the possibility of a private developer building a structure in the public right-of-way. He stated that subsequently, the Town Attorney had written a memorandum to the P&Z Board expressing his intent to address the issues that he has raised in various e-mails and at other meetings regarding the legality of the public rightof-way on Lake Shore Drive being utilized for private development. Mr. Headberg stated that he was not copied on this memorandum even though he was referenced within the document. Mr. Headberg further stated that there are several issues that he disagrees with. including the Plat of Kelsey City, which was the subdivision map that provided these public streets and roads for access to the private property owners of the land and was dedicated to the perpetual use of the public, and not the Town, because the Town was not in existence when the Plat was recorded. Therefore, the Town, when Incorporated, became the Trustee. He does agree with the Town Attorney that the Trustee is the Town holding these roads for purposes of maintenance, but does not believe that the Town has the right to decide what to do in the public right-of-way without a public hearing and without abandonment procedures to close the road and become the deed owner of the land, especially when the Town is going to write a legal document leasing public right-of-way to a private developer. Mr. Headberg stated that he stands firm in his opinion that it is illegal to lease public right-of-way to a private developer. He thanked the Board for considering his professional opinion on this matter.

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#### Jim Telepman

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Mr. Telepman stated that he is a North Palm Beach attorney representing the 84 unit owners of the Lake Harbor Towers South Condominium Association. Mr. Telepman stated that the condominium owners in Lake Harbor never envisioned having a tiki bar located in their backyard. He expressed concern that this development is not a family-friendly proposition. but will instead be adults eating and drinking into all hours of the nights, making noise, creating traffic problems and lights a block away from their house. development is not compatible with the surrounding use and does not belong in this community. Mr. Telepman expressed that consideration of this project should not go beyond this preliminary meeting. He further expressed that clearly the developer was not ready for the presentation and does not have a plan for the required parking or where the valet lots will be, etc. He does not understand why there is a need to continue this meeting beyond tonight - the consideration of placing a commercial development within a residential area. Also, the proposed development is not consistent or compatible with the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Telepman requested, on behalf of the Lake Harbor Towers South Condominium Association, that the P&Z Board recommend to the Town Commission that this development be rejected.

# Jorge Quintero

 Mr. Quintero, a 17-year resident of 301 Lake Shore Drive expressed his strong objection to this proposed project. He stated that the idea of an outdoor tiki bar in a residentially zoned neighborhood, surrounded by residential property, is hard to fathom how it could even be considered by the P&Z Board or the Town. He further stated that he doesn't believe the project is consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan and that there are numerous stated policies within the Comprehensive Plan which specifically address the issue of protecting neighborhoods from incompatible uses — and that this proposed development is clearly is an incompatible use. Mr. Quintero stated that he lives 10 feet from the proposed development and that there would be no amount of walls or landscaping which could protect neighboring properties from the level of noise from the tiki bar. Please ask yourself if you would want this development in your backyard or your front yard?

#### John Mede

Mr. Mede, a 10-year resident of 201 Lake Shore Drive addressed the P&Z Board and expressed that he enjoys the solitude of living on Lake Shore Drive. Mr. Mede stated that he sees both sides of this issue, and sees the potential economic benefit to the Town to attract patrons to the Town and to make the Lake Park Marina more viable. Mr. Mede requested the Board to look at this proposed development from a win-win perspective. He stated that he has met with both developers and some Town Commissioners and shared his position with them. He lives less than 100' from this proposed project and it will impact his everyday life. Mr. Mede requested the P&Z Board to look at it from his perspective – to maintain the current quality of life and to have the area improved – he wants both. He can support the project, but not under the conditions submitted by the developer – so, go ahead with the restaurant, but do not put a tiki bar on the pedestrian promenade. Allow the project but in a way which makes it more acceptable to the adjacent neighbors. Mr. Mede suggested that the P&Z Board should recommend to the developer that they modify their plan in order to eliminate the tiki bar on the promenade, and have the support of the adjacent neighbors, or ignore their request and anticipate further objection.

#### William Rose

Mr. Rose, a 6 year resident of 201 Lake Shore Drive, is on the Board of Directors of Lake Harbor Towers South Condominium, and is representing himself and other residents. He believes that he is speaking for the majority of the residents against the noise level anticipated from the proposed outdoor tiki bar. He stated that he is personally not against the restaurant, but is against the noise level from a tiki bar on public land and the foot traffic and car traffic, which could also become a safety issue. Mr. Rose expressed that there is no amount of landscaping or sound barriers which would prevent the noise from traveling over to the buildings. Also, the noise/sound levels from a tiki bar would affect potential sales of the units in the future; make the residents unhappy, make the property values will go down and the tax base decrease. The development would not be fair to the residents.

#### Diane Bernhard

A resident of 301 Lake Shore Drive. Ms. Bernhard expressed that the average income of most of those who live in Lake Park is under \$35,000 per year, per household. We are discussing a high end development. She realized that she and some of her neighbors will not be able to afford to utilize these facilities and will give up their precious property for profit that they will not be able to share. We are looking to build something that most of the residents will not be able to go to. The Town of Lake Park squandered their money and now must include outside developers who are looking to make a profit. Ms. Bernhard expressed concern regarding the decibel level on the waterway which is delivered on water molecules to a higher degree than on air molecules, so neighboring communities will also be affected. She also expressed concern regarding congestion and foot traffic coming from the tiki bar, creating a safety issue.

Chair Thomas thanked the public for offering their valuable input and suggestions and requested comments from the Planning and Zoning Board Members.

Board Member Michaud's thoughts were regarding how the project might produce revenue for the Town in a time of economic downturn; that the mini-golf aspect of the project is appealing, as it would provide a family oriented atmosphere, but expressed that the tiki bar should be separate from the mini-golf. Board Member Maibach questioned the square footage of the waterfront Riviera Beach tiki bar.

Board Member Schneider stated generalized comments since the plans in front of them are different from the plans which would potentially be brought forward - Staff needs to work with the developer; that she is glad this is a workshop rather than an actual hearing wherein they would make a recommendation to the Town Commission; that she is highly disappointed that these plans were brought forward to the P&Z Board in this state; questioned whether the developer has met with Board of the condominiums surrounding this area; concern that the noise and light studies contained within the plans do not address the spillage onto abutting properties; concern that the noise generated from the tiki bar area would travel across the water to neighboring condomiums was not addressed; great concern that there has been no market study for mini-golf; concern regarding the pedestrian access to the tiki bar across the street; concern that the applicant did not actually have presentation for tonight; concerned that the plans were brought forward prematurely and that a lot of people came out and spent their time. Board Member Schneider expressed that there is a wrong way and right way of creating economic development and this was too soon to bring it forward to the P&Z Board, that this is not the right way. She further stated that the Town wants economic development and something that would be compatible to the area; but it needs to be done in the right way, with sensitivity to the surrounding residential area. A lot more work needs to be done with the community since they are integrally involved with what is being done there.

 Board Member McConville expressed she has served on the P&Z Board before and she tries her best to do her due diligence; but that it was an injustice to her to receive the plans at 4:00 on Friday, and that she had no opportunity to do her homework on a plan of this nature. She

requested that the P&Z Board receive their plans at least 5 days prior to a meeting so they have the opportunity to do the due diligence that the Town Commission and the taxpayers expect of the Board. She stated that she is adamantly in favor of a development at the Marina but cannot say at this time that it is this project. The mini golf course does not show any link to the high end clientele boaters who come in to have something to eat and enjoy the ambiance of the Marina. She would like to see an aquarium or school of oceanography or something to educate our children; she has concerns that there were no market studies done on a miniature golf course and not enough traffic studies or fire department studies done that would normally come before P&Z. Board Member McConville suggested that the fire pit and tiki bar be moved to the back of the restaurant, leaving Lake Shore Drive as it is. She is happy that this is a workshop and there is a lot more work to do and commended Staff for getting all of this together.

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Chair Thomas apologized for arriving late at the meeting. She stated that she echoes a lot of the sentiments heard tonight from the Board and the public, and she is encouraged that there are business owners that want to invest in the Town of Lake Park. She stated that she does not understand what the applicant actually wants from the Board, as the plans received are more like conceptual plans - that the P&Z Board duty is to look at site plans which are complete and prepared in a professional manner so they can make professional comments; her job is not to design the site plan for the developer, but to ensure that the site plan which is submitted is consistent with the Town Codes and Comprehensive Plan; she expressed disappointment that she received the plans which were a lot to review with such a short period of time to provide educated information; and upon review, she found a lot of roadblocks: public property which is part of the intricate development with no agreement or public hearing on the private use of the public property. She questioned what is the public benefit for closing a public road, what is the public compensation? Board Chair Thomas also expressed concern there is no traffic circulation plan regarding spillover traffic from this development onto Silver Beach Road and U.S. One and other roads; and that these plans are really conceptual, and are you asking the Board to make a recommendation on a conceptual plan? There are so many deficiencies on the plans that have been presented and she has many concerns. Chair Thomas requested clarification as to why the performance standards for noise, which is a general performance standard, would be a P.U.D. rather than a overall variance by the Board of Adjustment? Ms. Di Tommaso explained that the P.U.D. allows for the applicant to request a waiver from the noise ordinance, and staff is still looking for further justification as to the impact of the noise waiver. Chair Thomas stated that light and noise, which create public nuisances, are issues which should be brought before the Zoning Board of Adjustment, outside of the P&Z Board, since they are deviating from the Code. Lastly, Chair Thomas stated she is confused and concerned regarding the issue of valet parking. There needs to be further clarification on the parking issue and if we are going to use property for private use that is actually in the public trust there needs to some type of approval by the Town Commission beforehand, and she does not want to review something that is arbitrary. The Town Attorney explained that one of the reasons that the parking and use of public property is being brought at the same time is that the representation is that there is a public benefit, and there has to be a public benefit in order for the Commission, who holds that land in trust for the public; to allow it to be used, whether it is compensation or some other public benefit, there has to be that exchange of benefits between the two. The Town Attorney further stated that, at this point, there is no identifiable public benefit and thus we do not have an agreement to bring to either the P&Z Board or the Town Commission and that is one of things that will need to be addressed as the project moves forward. Chair Thomas suggested to Staff that once that area is delineated that it be appraised, so there is some value to it.

# APPLICANT COMMENTS

The Applicant commented that they just received comments from Staff and their consultants less than a week ago and they were going to pull it off of the agenda for this evening, but it was recommended that it makes sense for everyone to go ahead this evening in order to get input from the public and to be sensitive to the neighbors. He further stated that this was meant to be a simple workshop and they weren't prepared to do a presentation because the plans changed last week, based on comments requiring a major change, therefore they were not ready for a presentation.

Chair Thomas asked the Community Development Director what is the requirement for deadline submittal for her review so that she can prepare comments and present them back to the Applicant? Ms. Di Tommaso stated that, typically, they would like to have everything reviewed and finalized by the time the Public Hearing is scheduled, two (2) weeks prior to a regularly scheduled meeting. Chair Thomas asked the Town Attorney that, since this was P&Z Meeting was advertised as a public hearing, but was actually conducted as a public workshop, should we continue the public hearing to a future date? The Town Attorney replied that it would be best to continue the public hearing to the next P&Z Hearing on December 5<sup>th</sup>, which should give the applicant time to address the concerns that have been expressed, and also to save the Town the cost of re-advertising. Chair Thomas inquired as to what would happen if the Applicant was not prepared for the December 5<sup>th</sup> Hearing. The Town Attorney replied that the hearing would need to be cancelled and re-advertised for another date.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Community Development Director Nadia DiTommaso stated that the public reiterated a lot of the issues that are being addressed and are outstanding on this project. She thanked everyone for coming out and looks forward to seeing everyone at the next Hearing.

#### MOTION TO CONTINUE PUBLIC HEARING

Board Member Schneider made a motion to continue the Meeting until the next regularly scheduled December 5<sup>th</sup> P&Z Board Meeting. Board Member McConville seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Judith Thomas	X	
Robin Maibach	X	
Natalie Schneider	X	

Roger Michaud	X	
Edie McConville	X	

The Motion carried 5-0, and the P&Z Board unanimously agreed to continue the Public Hearing until the next regularly scheduled P&Z Board Meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

#### APPOINTMENT OF PERMANENT CHAIR

 Board Member McConville questioned whether or not it would be appropriate to make a motion to appoint a Chair now that all Planning & Zoning Board Members were present. The Town Attorney indicated that it would be appropriate. Board Member McConville nominated Judith Thomas as Chair and Board Member Maibach seconded the motion. The Town Attorney asked if there were any other nominations, and there were none. Therefore, the vote to approve Judith Thomas as Chair of the P&Z Board was as follows:

	Aye	Nay
Judith Thomas	X	· ·
Robin Maibach	X	
Natalie Schneider	X	
Roger Michaud	X	
Edie McConville	X	

The Motion carried 5-0, and the P&Z Board unanimously appointed Judith Thomas as the Chair of the Planning & Zoning Board.

#### ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Board Member Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member McConville, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectivity Submitted,
Amberly Cowley
Kimberly Rowley /
Planning & Zoning Board Secretary

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD APPROVAL:

Planning & Zoning Board Chair

563 DATE:

Planning & Zoning Board Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2011

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JONES
FOSTER
JOHNSTON
& STUBBS, P.A.



**Attorneys and Counselors** 

# Memo

To:

Planning & Zoning Commission

From:

Thomas J. Baird, Town Attorney

Date:

November 4, 2011

Subject:

Dedication of ROW by Plat of Kelsey City

The Commission has received much email correspondence from Mr. Brent Headberg, including most recently an email dated November 2, 2011 concerning issues associated with Lake Shore Drive. In the November 2, email, Mr. Headberg, who is a licensed Professional Surveyor and Mapper raises some well informed questions regarding legal issues associated with the Plat of Kelsey City. This memo is intended to address the issues Mr. Headberg has raised in his various emails and offer the Planning and Zoning Board (and ultimately the Town Commission) guidance with respect to the legal issues which have been raised. It is not intended to suggest any particular policy that either the Board, or the Commission should adopt.

In the November 2, email, Mr. Headberg notes that the Kelsey City Plat is a legally binding "document," the purpose of which is to transfer title to land. I agree. Next, with respect to the ownership of rights-of-way dedicated to the perpetual use of the public. he notes that "nowhere will you find a deed to the streets that conveys title to the street to the Town of Lake Park." Again, I agree. Nevertheless, a Plat is also a means of transferring ownership of property, and in this case, the dedication language contained in the Plat of Kelsey City does operate to legally transfer title of the streets to the Town "for the perpetual use of the public." There is long standing court precedent for this. Once a street or road right-of-way has been dedicated by plat for the public, the local government where it is platted (in this case the Town) becomes the legal owner which is authorized to maintain, widen, alter, change, or discontinue the street or rightof-way. See Roney Inv. Co. v. City of Miami Beach, 127 Fla. 773, 174 So. 26 (Fla. This is so because "the public" cannot collectively own and maintain roads. Thus, the roads are held "in trust" by the Town for the benefit of the public. The Florida Supreme Court long ago recognized that a municipality holds a street dedicated for the benefit of the public in trust for the public. Accordingly, it is the Town Commission as the governing body of the Town who ultimately makes decisions regarding the maintenance and use of the roadways.

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Mr. Headberg has also questioned the Town's authority to restrict, or close a public road. This issue has been the subject of court opinions in Florida since the mid-1900s. The Florida Supreme Courts have consistently opined that the use of public streets is the responsibility of the governing body of the municipality, and that the governing body may allow for the encroachment by private interests on publicly dedicated land. Lincoln Road in Miami Beach is but one example of a decision to close, but not abandon a public street. Lincoln Road is one of the main business streets in the City of Miami Beach. The City decided to close a portion of Lincoln Road (between the Westside of Washington Avenue and the east side of Alton Road) and to convert it into a promenade or mall from which all vehicular traffic is excluded. The City removed the existing sidewalks and the roadway pavement. It replaced these improvements with walks, ramps, landscaped areas, fountains, pools, walls, shelters and seating to create a pedestrian Promenade. In appearance, it is more like a linear park, but remains open and accessible to the public, and there are businesses which are located along the "road." The Court was asked to decide whether the City had the right to construct a promenade and to limit this portion of the road to pedestrians. The Court ruled that the City could "close" the street to vehicular traffic thereby turning a portion of Lincoln Road into a pedestrian Promenade.

The site plan proposed by the developer of the Marina Village PUD proposes that the Town close the eastern lane of Lake Shore Drive to vehicular traffic, and that this lane be used as a pedestrian promenade, and that a Tiki Bar be situated in a portion of the right-of-way. The developer also proposes that a portion of the western right-of way of Lake Shore Drive be used for parking, a "drop off" area, and for a fire pit with seating, all uses associated with the development of a restaurant located on the Developer's property. Given the authority cited above, it is clear that the Town Commission may permit the use of property dedicated for the benefit of the public provided the Commission determines that the use of the public's property is not to benefit purely private interests. In other words, there must be some public benefit associated with the Commission's decision to allow the use of the property it holds "in trust" for the public.

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