



**Forest Acres Planning Commission  
Minutes  
January 24, 2023  
City Council Chambers  
6:00 PM**

**I. Call to order**

- 1. Determination of a Quorum**
- 2. Statement of Notification**

Mr. Jack Cantey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02p. He noted that there was a quorum. Mr. Ellis Creel, Ms. Beronica Whisnant, Ms. Nola Armstrong, Mr. Lyle Lee and Mr. Stephen Powell were present. Mr. Ralph Bailey was absent.

Mr. Andy Smith, Assistant City Administrator was also present.

**II. Election of Commission Officers –**

On a motion by Mr. Creel, seconded by Ms. Whisnant, Mr. Jack Cantey was unanimously re-elected Chairman. On a motion by Mr. Powell, seconded by Ms. Whisnant, Mr. Ellis Creel was unanimously re-elected Vice Chairman.

**III. 2023 Calendar Approval**

Mr. Smith presented a calendar showing the projected 2023 Planning Commission meeting dates, with each standing meeting planned for the third Tuesday of each month. He noted that a best practice is for the Commission to formally adopt this calendar for the year, noting that some standings may not happen if there is nothing to place on an agenda. On a motion by Mr. Creel, seconded by Mr. Lee, the calendar was adopted unanimously.

**IV. Approval of Minutes –**

- 1. December 20, 2022** - Mr. Lee made a motion to approve; Ms. Armstrong seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**V. New Business**

- 1. Map Amendment - A request to rezone the property at 340 Country Club Drive (TMS 16703-02-01) from R-1 (Single Family Residential) to P-1 (Public and Semi-Public District).*

[Mr. Jack Cantey and Ms. Beronica Whisnant recused themselves from discussion of this item as they are members of the Forest Lake Club (applicant). A quorum remained with the presence of Mr. Creel, Mr. Powell, Mr. Lee, and Ms. Armstrong.]

Mr. Creel, acting as Chair, deferred to staff. Mr. Smith identified the property on the Richland County GIS map and noted that it is a portion of the Forest Lake Club that includes tennis courts, along Country Club Drive.

Ms. Armstrong asked about the reason for the proposed change.

Mr. Smith noted that, from City Administration's perspective, the proposed rezoning would more closely align the long-standing use of the property with the City's zoning rubric. Mr. Mark Jones, representing Forest Lake Club, confirmed this understanding and noted further that rezoning would remove some of the hurdles that the Club may face down the road if they want to make any changes to the property.

Commission members asked, and there was discussion, about previous changes to this property, despite its residential zoning. Further, there was discussion about the fact that the rest of the Club property (the vast majority) is not in Forest Acres and it may be mutually beneficial to consider annexation. The Commission acknowledged that these matters didn't have bearing on the decision facing them in this meeting.

**On a motion by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Powell, the Planning Commission unanimously voted to recommend the proposed rezoning to City Council.**

[Mr. Cantey and Ms. Whisnant returned to the meeting discussion]

**VI. Adjournment –**

Mr. Powell made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Creel seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:25p.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Andy Smith, Asst. City Administrator/Finance Director  
(Administrative support of Planning Commission)