

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
Planning Commission Members
FROM: Paul Kenaga, Building Official/Zoning Administrator
DATE: September 26th, 2013
RE: Planning Commission Minutes

The Planning Commission met at 5:15 p.m., on Tuesday, September 17th 2013, in the City Council Chambers at City Hall. The following members were present: Don Smith, Jerry Steffes, Earl Welch, Richard Wieser, Dave Hanifl, Randy Corcoran and Ex-officio members John Graf and Shawn Wetterlin. Planning Member Linda Larson, Ex-officio member Bill Waller and Skip Wieser were not present. Paul Kenaga was also in attendance

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Smith and roll call taken. The minutes of July 30th 2013, were approved as written by the consensus of the Planning Commission.

2. Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City Zoning Authority will hold a public meeting at the La Crescent City Hall, 315 Main Street, in said City on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 5:25 o'clock P.M. to consider the application for a variance to allow for the construction of a new residential structure with the garage set back in front of the principal structure while the zoning ordinance requires attached garages to be at the same or greater set back as the principal structure (12.15, Subd. 6, A., 4.)

The variance request concerns certain premises situate in said City described as follows, Lot 2, Block 2, Apple Blossom Acres 2 Addition, to wit; more commonly identified as 1407 Jonathan Lane.

Motion by Wieser, seconded by Hanifl to approve the variance request with the following conditions:

1. The window on the south side of the garage will be centered in the exposed wall area from the porch to the south east corner.
2. The south wall of the side garage will have brick veneer that same as the front of the house.

Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor of the motion as proposed

In recommending that the variance request be approved, the Planning Commission referenced the following findings of fact:

1. With the conditions of the stone and window moved, the garage doesn't appear to be disconnected with the house.
2. The wall was shortened to 11', therefore it better fits in.
3. The variance will make the garage in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the ordinance.
4. The plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the particular lot that is challenging in locating and designing a nice looking house.
5. The topography and the strange angle of the lot make a variance a necessity.

3. Discussion was held concerning the application for a small cities grant for next year. There was some confusion concerning if the City of La Crescent would have to co-pay for the grants. Planning Chair Smith would contact Mr. Waller to investigate the best possible direction for the city to proceed.

Motion by Hanifl, seconded by Corcoran to table this topic until the next regular meeting, which will be October 1, 2013.

Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor of the motion as proposed

All discussion exhausted, motion by Wieser, seconded by Steffes to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:50 P. M. Motion approved by the consensus of the Planning Commission.

Saved as minutes of the September 17th, 2013 meeting of the Planning Commission