

**Town of Pittsboro
Planning Board
Meeting Minutes
May, 4 2009**

Members Present-Chairman Ken Hoyle, Ethel Farrell, Jimmy Collins, Harold Howard, Absent-Freda Marsh.

Call to Order-Chairman Hoyle called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Approval of March 19th Minutes-Howard recommended motion for approval, Collins seconded. Vote was taken; unanimously approved.

Approval of April 6th Minutes-Farrell recommended motion for approval, Collins seconded. Vote was taken; unanimously approved.

1. Old Business-Pittsboro Pedestrian Plan

Monroe stated that the first thirty-two pages of the document were background information and did not really require consideration of the Board but starting on page thirty-three were the list of recommended improvements that the consultant has deemed appropriate for the Town. Monroe wanted the Board to take a look at the individual improvements that were recommended. First being the pedestrian signage for crosswalks, etc., also mentioned was the repainting of crosswalks in town for greater visibility. Monroe stated that Thompson Street and Hillsboro Street intersection was one of his favorite recommendations; the Board agreed also stating that DOT approval would be necessary for any changes that would take place. Monroe felt confident that DOT would allow such changes. Pittsboro Elementary School Road was also designated as being an area that would benefit from better sidewalks, etc. because of how much foot traffic from the schools is generated daily. Farrell asked if there was a way to determine the volume of the foot traffic that would be involved. Monroe stated that the consultants actually had people sit and count the pedestrians. Monroe was surprised that the consultant did not recommend a reduction in speed in front of Lowes, it currently is 55 mph, and Monroe felt that it should be reduced to 35 mph. until past Northwood High School. Chairman Hoyle asked about the Powell Place curb situation, Monroe stated that he felt that the State had done all that it was going to do regarding that situation. Monroe mentioned that many Powell Place residents had approached the Town regarding a pedestrian friendly way to cross 15-501. Monroe felt that it is a much too dangerous road to encourage pedestrian traffic and possibly down the road the Town could look at possibly putting in a pedestrian bridge. Monroe thought that the sidewalk improvement on Martin Luther King Drive would be well received because now there is no way to continue in front of the shopping center. Monroe then moved on to the list of priorities in section 5.2, the traffic circle improvements would be the easiest to accomplish given the

low price tag associated with it. Monroe mentioned that most requested sidewalk area was Salisbury Street from Credle Street to the Community College through the community outreach project. Monroe stated that the walk would be lovely but it would be extremely expensive to do given the narrow right-of-way and swales in the area. Chairman Hoyle asked if it would be wise to consider recommending to the Board of Commissioners that the Public Works Department go out and paint the crosswalks and etc., Monroe stated that the hardest part of the would be getting DOT to sign off on it, but it would be possible. Monroe requested that the Board send to the Commissioners the Pedestrian Plan with Ordinance amendments so that the plan can start to be implemented and all Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances can be more pedestrian friendly. **Farrell recommended a motion for approval, Howard seconded. A vote was taken; unanimously approved.**

Board Member Concerns- Farrell asked that the hedges be trimmed on Masonic Street and Thompson Street. Collins questioned the pine tree and erosion behind McDonalds, the signs on East Street and the entrance and exit signs at Town Hall. Chairman Hoyle asked the status of the Land Use Plan, Monroe replied that they were close and within the next sixty days they should be coming back. Collins also requested that the Board meet the Assistant Planner sometime. Chairman Hoyle stated that he had concerns about Habitat for Humanity using their parking lot as storage and also the confusing entrance and exit on a one-way street.

Adjourn-Motion to adjourn was entered at 8:00 p.m.