

**MURRAY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009**

The Murray Planning Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall located at 104 N. 5th Street.

Commissioners Present: Mary Anne Medlock, Marc Peebles, Tom Kind, Ed Davis, Howard Koenen, Nelson Shroat, Ed Pavlick, Amber DuVentre and Richard Vanover

Commissioners Absent: Loretta Jobs

Also Present: Candace Dowdy, Peyton Mastera, David Roberts, Mike Pitman, Mayor Rushing, Matt Mattingly, Officer Jimmy Osborne, Dr. Robin Zhang, and Murray State students

Chairman Vanover called the meeting to order and welcomed all guests. Chairman Vanover asked for approval of the minutes from the March 17, 2009 regular meeting.

Tom Kind made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2009 regular meeting as presented. Ed Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried with a 9-0 voice vote.

Presentation of bike path plan by Murray State University students: Peyton Mastera stated that over the past year he and Matt Mattingly along with a few others from the city had been working with Dr. Zhang and her GSC 507 class from Murray State University on a proposed bike path plan. This project is actually a continuation from a previous class. Mr. Mastera added that there has to be public interest and a plan set in place in order to implement something like a bike path plan. He also stated that the meeting was being televised in order to bring awareness and to promote this project. He then opened the floor to the Murray State students for their presentation and open discussion.

Dr. Robin Zhang thanked Commissioner Tom Kind, Peyton Mastera, Matt Mattingly, and Robin Taffler for all the support they had given towards the bike path plan. The students have titled the project "Project SAFE" which is an acronym for Safety, Accessibility, Fun and Environmental Responsibility and they have a projected completion goal of 15 years. Several students spoke on various topics which included: 1) why a bike path plan should be considered 2) summary of the current conditions 3) the goals and objectives of the plan and 4) public outreach plan. The students also made the commissioners aware of a workshop that is being held by the Murray Environmental Student Society entitled Smart Growth City Planning Forum. The workshop will be held at 5:30 p.m. on April 28th in Alexander Hall.

Mayor Rushing commended Dr. Zhang and her students for their outstanding presentation. He added that a project like this would cost money; however, the students have laid the groundwork for the project.

Commissioner Shroat asked the group if they had applied for any grant money for this project and the answer was no, they added that they had not had the time to pursue that since they were

students.

Matt Mattingly added that there was a predication to have the funds available for bike paths. He stated that one of the issues that the City of Murray was facing was that there was no plan to move forward. He added that there has to be a plan in order to present a grant proposal for state funding. Mr. Mattingly added that one of the issues for the City of Murray was to come up with the money to devise a plan. Mr. Mattingly said that Murray State University and their students came together, worked with the City and developed some professional material for the City to use in implementing the plan and applying it to the grants. He applauded them for their efforts.

Commissioner Pavlick commented that this presentation could bring awareness of what future expectations would be for the city if this project should be implemented.

Chairman Vanover thanked the Murray State group for their presentation.

Discussion of continuing education requirements: Candace Dowdy made the Commissioners aware of the spring KAPA Conference that is being held at Lake Barkley State Park on May 20-22nd. She also encouraged the commissioners to attend the free workshop on Smart Growth to be held at Murray State. Ms. Dowdy also stated that the National Town & Gown Conference will be June 1-5th, 2009 and that Murray State has stated that they would allow Planning Commissioners and BZA members to attend at a discounted rate of \$50.00 registration fee.

Questions and comments: Peyton Mastera stated that the Murray State students would have their posters and presentations available after the meeting and that they would be available to answer questions or concerns.

Adjournment: Nelson Shroat made a motion to adjourn. Marc Peebles seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. *The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.*

Chairman, Richard Vanover

Recording Secretary, Reta Gray