

Planning and Zoning Board
Special Meeting
Foxfire Village Hall 6pm
07/22/25

1. **Call to order:** Chairperson Jarusinski called meeting to order at 6:00pm
2. **Members Present:** Jarusinski, Jackson, Page, Montes , and Kuebler
3. **Others Present:** One Resident of the Village

Meeting Purpose shared by Jarusinski

- The village council wants recommendations for water conservation and landscaping plans.
- The council is looking for water conservation recommendations and a list of recommended drought tolerant native plants for landscaping plans in the UDO that to provide resources for the community that include native plants that are drought tolerant and that require irrigation
- The council wants to direct people towards sustainability, drought-tolerant native plantings, and plants native to the area that require little to no irrigation.

Board discussed the following:

Water Conservation Plan

- The council does not want water restrictions, just recommendations.
- The council wants to know if there should be something in the UDO for new builds regarding landscaping plans, such as how much of the property can be impervious or sod.
- The council is looking for a percentage recommendation for how much of a property should be natural vs. sod.
- The council is looking to have people reconsider if they lived there and have a large lot that is all planted and irrigated, would they consider a recommendation from the community to make a portion of that pine straw, so they don't have to irrigate that anymore.
- Jarusinski suggested that a reasonable thing to ask would be 20 to 30% of your yard let it be natural.

Builder Responsibility

- Page suggested a recommendation should be to new builders or any builder coming in that they have to submit a plan detailing only a certain percentage is going to be for the grass and the rest is going to be indigenous to the area (groundcover)

Native Plants and native planting list

- Native plants are adapted to the local environment and require less intervention.
- Some plants will die if they are not native to the land.

- NC State has a lot of information on soil and plantings.
- The North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox has lots of information and that is where Jarusinski pulled info from – One can put in parameters and it will give a full list of plants native to a certain area.
- The Sandhills area has sandy, rocky soil that water runs through quickly and does not hold moisture.
- The reason water conservation is important is because we're on a Turassic basin and it and surface/soil water is scarce in a Turac basin basin.
- The aqueduct is fine but our Sandhills soil acts like a strainer, water does not sit in the soil for plants.

Jackson questioned why golf course is constantly using water

- The golf course pulls water out of the lake and is not on community water.

Ideas

- Restrict the sod percentage or and then try to have so much requiring water grasses and things like that.
- Page suggested adding interior water saving devices to water conservation recommendations
- Jarusinski recommends for water conservation, 30% of property being native groundcover.
- Montes requested Village Council explain to the village why there is not enough water, concerned people don't understand why there are water restrictions.
- Montes, Kuebler, Page recommend changing Village Council meeting times to 6:00pm so more people can attend and be involved.
- Jackson, Montes, Page don't feel comfortable making recommendations until more information is given about water situation.

Water Usage and Restrictions

- Concern by several members about water restrictions implemented last summer, but nobody explained why.
- Jarusinski reminded board, The Village Council is asking for recommendations, not restrictions.
- Jarusinski suggest recommending native plants and low-flow fixtures was suggested as a way to promote water conservation. Instead of getting rid of lawns, plant native plants when putting new plants in.
- Montes suggest Informing people why it's a good idea to conserve water. Suggested asking NC State Cooperative representative to come to our village and do a presentation.
- Jackson recommends having someone from Sandhills Community College Agriculture Department come and inform community on native plantings and environment.

UDO Appendices and New Builds

- Recommendation to Lisa to include UDO appendices for new builds.

- Restricting the amount of grass in new builds to a percentage.
- Including a list of native plants with information from NC State.
- A simpler word document with plant names and descriptions is suggested.
- This would include drought tolerance and other relevant information.
- The "39 harmful plants" list should be included in the appendices.- The list should be included online.

Formal Votes

- vote to include the 39 harmful plants and a list of native plants as appendices to the UDO.
- Jarusinski made a motion to include those two documents as part of the appendix, seconded by Montes.

Required Native Planting

- Proposal to require 30% of new build landscape plans to be native plants and sod
- Motion made by Montes and Seconded by Kuebler.

Table of Authorized Uses

- The table of authorized uses is missing X's in all the blank spaces. X's should be added to make the table uniform to all other tables in UDO
- Motion to approve change made by Jarusinski, seconded by Montes.

Motion to Adjourn made by Jarusinski, Seconded by Montes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.