

Amsterdam/Churchill Community Planning Group
April 21, 2008

Attendees: Dean Sybesma, Carol Weidenaar, Ren Braaksma, Robin Swanson, Warren Vaughan, Walt Sales, LeRoy Logterman, Bob Urich, Erika Braaksma, Mark Kimm, Jason Kimm

Meeting Introduction:

- 1) Walt opened the meeting at 7:15pm.
- 2) An agenda was passed around. The “rumor mill” was the first topic. There were no rumors to share.
- 3) Walt noted a correction to the April 7th minutes. Line 13, item 3 should read “articles of incorporation and by-laws,” not “a constitution and by-laws.” LeRoy moved to accept the changes. Ren seconded. Motion passed (all 5’s).

Business:

- 4) The treasurer’s report was given next. Walt reminded everyone that \$237 was collected. Gail Weidenaar was given \$40 to apply for a tax ID number. Of the remaining \$197, \$188 was used for the last community mailing. There is a balance in the account of \$9.
- 5) Warren stated that the county will cover the cost of the ACCPG attendee mailings, which consist of the agenda, minutes, and any handouts to be covered during the next meeting.
- 6) Everyone was reminded of the members making up the Treasurer’s committee, who are Gail Weidenaar, Keith Venema and Todd Kitto. Since none of these members were present, Carol reported that Gail had looked into different 501 non-profit options. Each option had its own requirements. There are 2 or 3 different ways to form an association.
- 7) LeRoy moved to have the Treasurer’s committee decide which of the 501 non-profit options is best and go ahead and do it. Robin seconded. Motion passed (all 5’s).
- 8) There was mention of a possible rural landowner meeting with Joe Skinner, but since there is nothing new to present to large landowners, there is no meeting scheduled as of now.

- 9) The format of sub-committees was discussed next. A Sidewalk Committee was mentioned. Possible volunteers for this committee include Rose Brouwer, Marian Kimm, Tim VanDam, Gene Reichert, Reece Miller, and Dean Sybesma. There was also mention of a Water Assessment Committee, which Ada Montague previously volunteered to be part of.
- 10) Walt recommended that the ACCPG wait to elect a chair until other committee positions are filled.

Discussion:

- 11) Warren passed around a draft of the Amsterdam/Churchill Community Plan. Discussion followed.
- 12) There was some discussion about the lack of large landowner participation. The point was made that there will be more participation once people see the plan in writing and it becomes more of a reality to everyone.
- 13) There was discussion of adopting the same density standards as the county has recommended. A base density in the rural areas of 1/160 acres, with the option of a cluster density of 1/40 acres.
- 14) It was agreed that it would be best for the community to come up with an independent plan (even if it is much the same as the county's) so that there is local control. The plan could also be changed through local control in the future if the community desires to do so.
- 15) The goal is of the ACCPG is to be prepared to hold another large community meeting at the end of May or the beginning of June to discuss in detail Chapter 5 of the Amsterdam/Churchill Community Plan draft. Chapter 5 relates to rural Amsterdam and Churchill. Chapter subtitles include adopting a land use map, agricultural uses and land, and multiple uses.
- 16) Jason moved that large landowners would be contacted for a 6:00 am morning breakfast meeting to discuss policies in chapter 5 in early May. Ren seconded. Motion passed (all 5's).
- 17) Three maps were handed around by Warren; two depicting Amsterdam/Churchill with different development densities, and the third showed the current core boundary. Discussion followed with concerns that the current core boundary of approximately four square miles was too large. After much discussion, the group made some modifications to the core boundary, which Warren made note of. No vote was taken.

Closing of the Meeting:

18) The next ACCPG meeting will be held on May 12th from 7-9pm at the Amsterdam/Churchill Rural Fire Hall.

19) At 9:40pm, Mark moved that the meeting be adjourned. Erika seconded. Motion passed (all 5's).