Meeting Minutes – Monday, April 22, 2024 - Bolivar Planning Commission

7:01 PM meeting called to order.

Members present: Barb Staats, Deb Hale, Jacob Stettes, Marcelo Morinigo, Sarah Gordon.

Also present: Jeffrey Staats (Office Admin).

Meeting minutes from March 2024 meeting were approved with **one change**: to clarify that "There was a general misunderstanding" regarding Marcelo's task of editing section work under Unfinished Business, Comprehensive Plan Update. Sarah made the first motion to approve the minutes with said change; Jacob seconded the motion. All affirmed.

Barb reported that instead of asking Town lawyer to attend BPC meeting, Mayor Paradis recommended sending any legal questions to Jesse Richardson from WVU Law Clinic (free resource). Jesse did provide answers to the BPC members' questions, which included sticking to terms "Goals" and "Objectives", although we may additionally use "Action Steps". He recommended "tweaking" current Comp Plan rather than revamping it. Since a History section is already included, he suggests keeping it unless the Public decides otherwise.

New Business

1. Jefferson County Development Authority (Analysis for Economic Development) –

Barb reported to BPC about the presentation at last Town Council meeting by the JCDA. Edwina Benites is the new Executive Director of the JCDA who is pushing an effort to promote small businesses in Jefferson County, in particular agribusiness (preserving farmland, "Jefferson County Grown") and "Jefferson County Made" (local products). Barb said that each town's Comprehensive Plan can be used to secure grant funding. A great need locally is day care and a young workforce.

2. Senate Bill 782 –

Barb passed copies out of a recent bill passed in the WV legislature (Senate Bill 782) pertaining to local permitting deadlines (which may affect building/zoning permits in Bolivar).

Unfinished Business:

1. Comprehensive Plan update –

Barb announced that the Town Office will handle all editing updates to the Comp Plan from this time forward to facilitate speedy turn-around. (Goal is to have Comp Plan final draft ready to present at June Town council meeting.) We collectively read through Section 5 for any changes/corrections. Deb will condense history about COVID and Race Track, and fact-check liquor tax info, and try to get feedback from the HF National Park. Jacob discussed & presented the map he edited to reflect Bolivar's historic zoning using the "colored dots", and divided into 4 quadrants.

The next meeting is set for May 20, 2024, before the Memorial Day holiday. The plan is to have a completed final draft by end of meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:32 pm. Deb made the motion to adjourn; Sarah seconded. All affirmed.