Greensboro Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2012

PRESENT: Phil Gray, Mark Snyder, Josh Karp, Willie Smith, Kristen Leahy, Alison Low, Gail Aloisio

CALLED TO ORDER: 4:00 PM

MINUTES: Minutes from Feb. 6, 2012 meeting approved.

The Planning Commission met with Alison Low and Gail Aloisio from NVDA. NVDA recently gave Greensboro’s town plan a thorough going-over, paying particular attention to whether our Plan’s goals reflect overall regional and state planning goals.

Some of the suggestions made by Alison and Gail included:

• Provisions to protect ‘spectacular views’;
• Consider what types of businesses we want to attract (and not attract) to town, and clarify which parts of town are desired for commercial uses;
• Clarify what scale of alternative energy structures should be allowed in town;
• Determine what ‘ancient roads’ are used by the public and map them, so they won’t ‘disappear’ in 2015 (according to state statute);
• Consider applying for ‘Village Center’ designation

It was noted that our Town Plan will expire at the end of February. One of the results of this is that Community Development Block Grants will not be available to Greensboro applicants.

Discussion of making policy changes to the plan (“amendments”) vs. a more straightforward “update” process. It was noted that the Zoning Bylaw needs work, and since the Bylaw cannot be changed until the plan is made current, perhaps the quicker ‘update’ would make sense at this time. This would entail mostly changes to facts and figures — and no meaningful policy changes. The adoption process is simpler with this approach as well.

Discussion of a survey, perhaps mailed out to the entire grand list, to solicit public input on the Plan and Bylaw. Alison will send us survey examples.

The next meeting will be held on Feb. 27.

ADJOURNED: 6:00 PM