Board members present: Mayor Tim Helms

 Mayor Pro Tem Kent Otto

 Kitty Fouche

 Bill Gilliland

 Alice Lentz

 Tom Widmer

Board members absent: None

Town staff present: Alex Carmichael, Town Administrator

Angie Murphy, Town Clerk

Public Present: Three Members

**Agenda Adoption**

Commissioner Tom Widmer moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Alice Lentz seconded and the motion carried 5/0.

**Interviews with Planning & Zoning Candidates**

A. John “Allen” Crawford: Mr. Crawford stated that he was grateful for the opportunity to volunteer because he has a vested interest in Montreat. Mr. Crawford owns three lots in the ETJ and has been an active part of Montreat his whole life. Mr. Crawford would like to see Montreat keep a lot of the natural aspects without going overboard with development. Mr. Crawford was an officer in the military for 27 ½ years and a defense contractor for an additional 3-4 years. Mr. Crawford currently does a lot of volunteering and is a Scout Master here in Montreat. Mayor Helms stated that Mr. Crawford would be representing the extra-territorial jurisdiction seat on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

B. Sarah “Sally” Stansill: Ms. Stansill has been a Montreat resident less than a year, so she does not have a lot of history, but she feels that could almost be a good thing. Ms. Stansill is interested in how the Town of Montreat develops as she is a former real estate agent. Ms. Stansill has read the Montreat Ordinances with respect to noise. Ms. Stansill is aware that the Planning & Zoning Commission is now reviewing the ordinances. Ms. Stansill appreciates this Board and the work they do for the Town of Montreat.

C. Wade Burns: Mr. Burns stated that zoning has been his core vocation for some 40 plus years. Mr. Burns does not see a conflict of interest with respect to his building and renovations in Town. In fact, he feels that his experience in building and renovations would be helpful to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Burns reflected on conservation efforts in and around Montreat.

D. Lily Rogers: Ms. Rogers’ interview was conducted via the telephone. Ms. Rogers stated that she is somewhat new to Montreat and she always likes to give back to the Town in which she lives. She is very interested to learn more about the ordinances. Ms. Rogers was a CPA for Ernest & Young and did a good bit of financial planning.

E. Mary Nell Todd: Ms. Todd has noticed non-buildable lots in Asheville, Black Mountain and Montreat and all of a sudden a home is constructed on that “non-buildable lot”. She was startled by the regularity in which construction takes place on non-buildable lots. Ms. Todd is interested in how other communities have been able to retain the dignity of the place without impugning the residents’ options.

**Public Comment**

Jean Norris of 192 Mississippi Road felt that it was interesting to see the diversity of people applying for a position on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Ms. Norris is concerned about the need for managing water.

F. Laura Wolfe: Ms. Wolfe has been coming to Montreat since the 1970s. She was an attorney for 10 years and did some work for the N.C. League of Municipalities. She currently works in Family Medicine. Ms. Wolfe is interested in the future development of the Town. Ms. Wolfe is hoping to build a house here when she retires. She feels there needs to be a balance between development and old traditions/culture.

**Public Comment**

None at this time.

**Council Discussion**

Mr. Carmichael stated that the ETJ vacant position would be eligible for any of tonight’s applicants but Mr. Crawford would only be eligible for the ETJ seat because he lives outside Montreat. Commissioner Gilliland asked if it would be appropriate to do a paper ballot form of voting. Commissioner Fouche the other two alternate seats should go to women to represent the women of Montreat. Mr. Carmichael read the rules of procedures for written ballots. These ballots will be open to public inspection in the Town Clerk’s office until the time at which the minutes are approved by Council.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Bill Gilliland moved to adjourn the Special Meeting. Commissioner Kitty Fouche seconded and the motion carried 5/0.

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Tim Helms, Mayor Angie Murphy, Town Clerk