

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OWOSSO PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**At Bryant Elementary School**  
**April 23, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wascher at 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Baker.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ronald Baker, Mike Bradley, Mike Bruff, Gary Burk, Tracy Butcher, Dallas Lintner, Frank Livingston, Linda Robertson, Cheryl Voss, William Wascher.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Two Vacant Positions

**MINUTES:**

It was moved by Commissioner Robertson and supported by Commissioner Bruff to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 26, 2007 as presented.

AYES: All, Motion Carried

NAYS:

**CITIZEN AND MEMBER COMMENTS:** Chairman Wascher announced that Member Jack Davis had resigned to permit extensive travel time.

**SITE PLANS:** Memorial Health Care, Revised Site Plan

Brian White of Memorial Health Care described the changes to the site plan. The north row of parking has been added to the main parking area to the south. The north detention basin has been enlarged and will be drained into the south detention basin. A block enclosure will be built at the north east corner of the building to house the emergency generator and exterior medical tanks.

It was moved by Commissioner Bruff and supported by Commissioner Butcher to approve the changes listed above to the site plan of Memorial Health Care.

AYES: All, Motion Carried

NAYS:

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS: NEIGHBORHOODS OF CHOICE PROGRAM:**  
**SOUTH WEST OWOSSO NEIGHBORHOOD**

Phil Hathaway, the Community Development Director, started the program by showing a geological map of Owosso and explained that the southern part of Owosso is an old river basin created during the melting of the latest ice cap. He then showed some Census data from 1990 and 2000 for the City, County and South West Owosso related to family income, poverty levels, employment levels, age of housing, amount of rental property, complaints to police, reported crime statistics and other data. Ron Baker showed a map of the street improvements in the area over the last ten years and Gary Burk gave a short update on the Owosso Drain project. A drive-by housing conditions survey revealed that only 80 or so dwelling units of the 1440 units in Census Tract 307 required any maintenance and only 11 of those were major maintenance. None of the dwelling units approached a demolition condition.

The following are comments received from the approximately 40 residents of the South West Quadrant in attendance: liked the police presence and door hangers, not enough sidewalks, brush along sidewalks not cut back, arking utility wires on Freeman Street, preference for less burning of illegal material, children crossing Chipman Street before they get to the crossing guard at Fredrick Street, appreciation for the city web site and having the city codes on the web site, preference for increased code enforcement on

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sidewalk clearing and junk in yards, preference for continuation of water bill inserts, more maintenance and routine service on Morris Street, the catch basins at Milwaukee and Martin are causing holes in the street, preference for walkability and pedestrian options in the area with feeling of safety in their neighborhood, check a guy wire near the sidewalk on the north side of South Street between George and Chipman that is a danger to people at night, observed drug sales on Chipman across from the Bryant school grounds, request for a catch basin in the east-west alley between Lafayette and Hoyt with alley pavement, loud motorcycle noise, too many rentals in the area, people not cleaning up after their dogs, not enough street sweeping, would like city to bid out refuse service to reduce so many garbage trucks on the streets.

Overall the neighborhood was described as stable and attractive. Lots are spacious and well-maintained. Testimonials frequently mentioned that the neighborhood was very livable and when the housing market returns, it should continue as a Neighborhood of Choice. Future neighborhood meetings will look for patterns of repeated comments that will increase attention to them for potential action.

It was announced that the next meeting would be at Central School on May 29, 2007 (a Tuesday) and that everyone was invited to follow these meetings throughout the city. The project results and survey responses will be posted on the Internet Web Page, and Commissioner Bruff emphasized the value in checking this page routinely .

**COMMISSIONER/CITIZEN COMMENTS:** The Planning Commission was thanked for coming to the neighborhood to hear the residents comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved by Commissioner Bruff and supported by Commissioner Livingston to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: All, Motion Carried

NAYS:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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Ronald Baker  
Secretary