

MINUTES
PLAN COMMISSION
City Hall Forum - 100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511
7:00 PM
Wednesday, January 5, 2022

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Chairman Weeden, Commissioners Ramsden, Jacobsen, Anderson, Finnegan, and Councilor Preuschl were present. Commissioners Toral and Robson were absent.

2. MINUTES

There were no minutes to be approved.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

3.a. Consideration of a Conditional Use Permit to allow a religious institution in an R-1B, Single Family Residential District, for the property located at 901 Harrison Avenue

Commissioner Weeden asked if the Plan Commission is approving the CUP as the property exists right now, or could the owner come in knock the building down and build something brand new and then the Commission would not have any input. Ms. Christensen stated that Plan Commission is approving a religious institution in an R-1B, Single Family Residential District, and if they wanted to knock the building down and build a new one, they could but she does not think the owner will be doing that.

Commissioner Weeden asked what input would the neighborhood, the City, and Staff have if the owner were to knock the building down. Ms. Christensen said that any new institutional structure requires site plan review which includes staff review and approval. Thee public process is for the land use application which is the CUP. Commissioner Anderson asked if this takes into account any activities that will be on the site that could impact the surrounding neighbors.

Ms. Christensen said that the owner can have any of the allowable accessory uses that go along with religious institutions, such as Sunday school facilities, caretakers housing, group living facilities, and to hold meetings that run during business hours.

Commissioner Weeden opened the public hearing.

Commissioner Ramsden asked if the applicants could describe a brief history of the church, how many people attend, and what types of activities they have.

Sara and Pedro Diaz, 339 S. Academy Street, Janesville, Wisconsin, stated that the church started in 1926 in Mexico with over 65 churches in the nation, and they are currently in Janesville, Wisconsin. Mrs. Diaz said their congregation is around fifteen members, and they want to grow their church and need a bigger building. Commissioner Ramsden asked if they are taking the fifteen members from Janesville, and any new members that are looking to come to that church. Mrs. Diaz said yes they are taking the fifteen members, and any new members who would like to join.

Commissioner Weeden asked what type of programs they would be hosting throughout the week. Mrs. Diaz said that they have prayer every day, Monday through Saturday at 5AM, 9AM, and 7PM. Mrs. Diaz said that on Wednesday and Thursday night at 6PM they have worship, and on Sunday they have 5AM, 10AM, and 6PM worship. Mrs. Diaz said they do want to have activities such as giving away food to the community to bring something good to the neighborhood. Mrs. Diaz stated that nothing structural would be changed maybe some decorations but nothing major to the building.

Commissioner Weeden closed the public hearing.


Commissioner Ramsden moved to approve the CUP, seconded by Commission Finnegan. Motion carried, roll call vote (5-0).

4. STATUS REPORT ON PRIOR PLAN COMMISSION ITEMS

Ms. Christensen updated the Plan Commission on the actions taken by City Council related to a variety of items previously reviewed by Plan Commission. The next Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for January 19th, 2021.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ramsden moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commission Finnegan at 7:20 PM.



Timothy Weeden, Chairman