

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON JULY 16, 2019, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 10:00 A.M. COUNCIL MEETING; THE HEARING BEGAN AT 10:47 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor MacNair, Councilors Wheeler, Curtis, Piontkowski, Barrick and Howard

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Fast, Deputy Clerk Mullins, City Clerk Fleming, Police Chief Estes, Public Works Superintendent Holbrooks and City Attorney Kidd

Mayor MacNair introduced Adam Hazell, Planning Director for The Georgia Mountains Regional Commission (GMRC), who is assisting Rabun County Municipalities, with the required State document. The Rabun County Joint Comprehensive Plan is required from local governments for full eligibility in the funding and assistance of State and Federal Government. This is a five-year vision that has been set up for the community. The document can be downloaded from the County's website.

Mr. Hazell talked about the assessment of the previous plan and the needs and wants for the upcoming one. He suggested to take a look at what is needed and the vision for Sky Valley, to determine what is feasible. The previous plan will be analyzed and resubmitted on what has been accomplished thus far.

Public comments and questions were taken concerning the upcoming Comprehensive Plan for Sky Valley. Lots of participation from the audience and the following is a synopsis of what was discussed:

Strengths

nature/natural beauty/wildlife
safety
active living
diversity
climate
location/access
EMS
winding roads/slow traffic
new cell tower
water system
golf club

Opportunities

potential for recreation
school exchange programs
retired volunteers
movie industry

Weaknesses

need more young folks
medical services
broadband
deferred maintenance
culverts/ditches/infra.
accommodations-senior fac.
marketing plan needed
transit awareness
location/liability to employment
lack of major employers

Threats/Trends

aging pop. – affects marketing
change in local businesses
newer development
billboards vs scenic beauty

Mr. Hazell thanked all for their time and attention.

GMRC will take the recommendations and compile a plan for Sky Valley within the next couple of months

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the Public Hearing ended at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert MacNair", written over a horizontal line.

Robert MacNair, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen Fleming", written over a horizontal line.

Karen Fleming, City Clerk