

City Council denies senior housing after neighbors object

BY TODD LUCK
THE CHRONICLE

The City Council rejected a rezoning request, 5-2, for a senior housing project on Reynolda Road during its Monday, May 2 meeting.

The request was one of many items considered in the meeting, but was the only one with opposition as residents from Town and Country Estates objected to rezoning a property at Briarcliffe and Reynolda roads for the project. The corner acts as an entrance to the community. Rezoning would've allowed for the construction of a 54-unit two-story independent living senior apartment building for individuals 55 and over.

The property is in the Northwest Ward, which City Council Member Jeff MacIntosh represents. He said though the property is ideal for multi-family units like the one proposed, he couldn't support it.

"Because of the fairly strong pushback from the neighbors, I have to vote 'no' on this," said MacIntosh.

Resident August Pike outlined the

objections to the project, which included its height and high elevation on a hill, which he said made it an unattractive sight for Town and Country residents. He also expressed concerns about its dumpster being an eyesore, stormwater drainage from the property and increased traffic at an already busy intersection. When he asked opponents of the project to stand up, at least 15 attendees did so.

The developer, Bill Scantling of Lewisville, said he could change the site plan for the dumpster and agreed to add a requirement that the property be used for senior living, which wasn't mandatory in the original zoning request. However, Scantling said the project wouldn't be economically viable if it had less apartments and the site left few options to lower it or move it back to make the two-story apartments less visible.



MacIntosh

Normally a zoning conflict would be continued to the next City Council meeting to let the developer and residents work out their issues, but Scantling was under a deadline to acquire the property and have it properly zoned by May 13 to get federal funds for the project, which meant the next council meeting would be too late.

City Council members D.D. Adams and Derwin Montgomery voted to allow the rezoning. Adams said affordable housing for seniors was needed. Montgomery thought that the issues could be worked out if the zoning was allowed. He was concerned that, if denied, the developer wouldn't be able to return to council with the project for two years, or return with a different project for the property for one year.

The rest, with the exception of Robert Clark who was absent, voted against the zoning request.

During the meeting the council also approved rezoning for the Quarry Park project in the Southeast Ward. The \$5 million park is on the site of

the former Vulcan Quarry and is part of the bond approved by voters in 2014.

City Council also honored Officer Travis McFadden with a City Star commendation. In October of last year, he was on his way to his job as a school resource officer at Kingswood School when he witnessed a crash between RJ Reynolds High School and Wiley Middle School. The car had collided with the steel roof that covered a walkway and was wedged between the walls of the tunnel, suspended above the path. The driver escaped but a two-year-old child was still in the car, which threatened to fall into the tunnel. McFadden climbed into the vehicle and rescued the child.

"I believe I was in the right place at the right time," said McFadden. "I believe that any officer at the time would've done the same thing."

Winston-Salem Symphony presents free concert for community

SPECIAL TO THE
CHRONICLE

The Winston-Salem Symphony and Youth Symphony will present a Concert for Community on May 7 at 3 p.m. The free concert is open to the public and will take place at Wait Chapel on the Wake Forest University campus. Although the concert is free, please visit the Symphony website at WSSymphony.org to reserve your ticket.

"This is one of my very favorite concerts of the year," said Maestro Robert Moody, Music Director of the Winston-Salem Symphony. "It is our annual gift to the community

and is free for everyone. It is a unique opportunity to hear remarkable music, beautifully performed by professional musicians and tomorrow's stars. I love the fact that it highlights the enormous talent here in our community, both established and emerging."

Maestro Moody, Music Director of the Winston-Salem Symphony, and Stephen Mulligan, Assistant Conductor, will both conduct portions of the Concert for Community. The program features the combined professional and youth symphonies, totaling approximately 120 musicians, performing multiple pieces.

The Winston-Salem

Symphony will open the concert with the world premiere of Elysia, composed by Alexander Umfleet, the winner of the 2016 Winston-Salem Symphony and University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA) Composition Competition. The 2016 Peter Perret Youth Talent Search winners will then perform with the Winston-Salem Symphony. Caroline Smoak, the winner of the junior division (ages 8 to 12) will perform the Finale from Max Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1, Op. 26. Nathalie Schmalhofer, a German-Canadian violinist who is a high school senior at UNCSA and is the winner of the senior division

(ages 13 through senior year of high school), will perform the opening movement of Felix Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, Op. 64.

For the second half of the concert, the Winston-Salem Symphony and the Winston-Salem Youth Symphony will combine to play Grand Canyon Suite, by Ferde Grofé. This majestic work consists of five movements celebrating different aspects of one of our nation's most magnificent natural wonders.

For more information, visit www.WSSymphony.org.

Bond

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always a plus to sit down and talk to people who ask for information and do their homework.

Later this month the board is expected to take the final bond proposal to the county commissioners who have the final say on the cost of the final bond package. If approved, the bond will be included on the November bal-

lot.

County Commissioner Everett Witherspoon said while the board of education is requesting \$350 million, there is no guarantee that they will be granted that amount. Witherspoon also mentioned that the board of commissioners looks a lot different from the last time the school board presented a bond proposal.

"Nothing is set in stone," said Witherspoon. "They could get less or they could get more; we won't know until we sit down and access the situation."

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SEPTEMBER

Sat. 10 at Catawba 6:00 PM

OCTOBER

Sat. 1 at Lincoln (Pa.) * 1:00 PM

Sat. 8 at Johnson C. Smith * ^ TBA

NOVEMBER

Sat. 5 at Fayetteville St. * ^ 1:00 PM

* Conference

^ Division

Bold/Red: Home event

Sat. 29 at Shaw * ^ 1:00 PM

GO RAMS!

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SAVE THE DATE 10.15.16

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Afternoon Session (6th-8th grade)
June 27-29 | 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. | \$85

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6-13 years old
July 11-14 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | \$100

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WSSU FOOTBALL PROSPECT CAMPS

Session II | July 13 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | \$30