

**WALKER PLANNING COMMISSION  
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 29, 2013  
6:00 p.m. 701 Elm Street Walker Fire Hall Meeting Room**

1. **Call to Order** 6:00 p.m. by Gary Wilkening.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Gary Wilkening, Jane Ekholm, Char Moore, Rich Hansen, Greg Smith

Members Absent: Jeff Holly and Terri Bjorklund

Staff: Pamela Smith

Others: Terry Freeman

2. **Additions or deletions to agenda:**

None.

3. **M/S/A: Ekholm/Hanson to recommend to City Council for LU-2013-01 Cochran original request for Lot Split is revised to request a Registered Land Survey #70 approval for Marine Max.**

Terry describes that his original intent on this was to have the RLS approved first.

Ekholm-Is this cleaner?

Terry explains that this will be another way for Marine Max to describe their property.

Motion passed (5-0)

4. **Announcements by Chair:**

None.

5. **M/S/A of minutes: Ekholm/Moore to approve of minutes for March 25, 2013.**

Ekholm requests that the wording from the last minutes from section number 10, second paragraph the wording of "animal shelter" be changed to read "animal shelter/barn."

Motion passed (5-0)

6. **Building/Zoning Report.**

Wilkening recaps what building and sign permits were applied for in March and what Council action was taken at the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 council meeting.

Ekholm inquires whether or not updates on the property owned by the City of Walker are beginning.

Wilkening refers to the approval at the April 1<sup>st</sup> City Council meeting for Ulteig to update the zoning map and provide the City with a digital copy. Also that Terri is working on putting a book together with descriptions of the parcels owned by the City of Walker.

7. **Continue work on Ordinance Chapter 91: Animals**

**a) Review proposed Ordinance**

The board has requested that the Draft of Chapter 91: Animals have the following changes.

91.04 (section chapter introduction:

Nondomestic *animals*

91.01A, number (3), last sentence read:

Unless otherwise defined, "nondomestic animals" shall include, *but not be limited to:*

91.01(d), first sentence read:

(whether or not *descended*)

91.01, first sentence read:  
the same to be on any *publicly owned property*, without being effectively restrained  
91.03A, first sentence read:  
shall be delivered to the *nearest animal shelter* for impoundment.  
91.03C, first sentence read:  
Dogs and cats may be redeemed from the *animal shelter* by the owner

Ekholm requests that any wording of “animal pound” be replaced by “animal shelter”.

91.05, first sentence read:  
provided that no animal *shelter/barn* shall be within one hundred fifty ~~hundred~~ (150) feet

It is noted that the City will keep the files on current owners grandfathered into Ordinance 91.05.

91.05(A), Swine  
Omit 1-3 for the calculations, and add 1.0 to the units calculation.  
91.06A), first sentence read:  
Apartment or comparable structure that is rented, leased, *owned* or used as a single unit.  
91.06C), Subd. 2., last sentence read:  
any additional cats or dogs to replace any cats or dogs in excess of ~~4. the maximum limits set in this Section unless specifically authorized by the City Council.~~

The board discusses the wording of 91.06C) Subd.3. “properly licensed”. The City of Walker currently isn’t required to license their pets. Wilkening asks Hanson if he recalls how much it was to license his animals in the previous town he lived in. Hanson remembers it being around \$10.00 to \$15.00 per year for the licensing fees. It is discussed how to enforce this, and how to keep track of what animals are licensed.

At this time Ekholm removes herself from the board and sits as a member of the public, so she is able to make a statement that is not considered biased. Ekholm states that having a record of licensing these animals is important.

Ekholm-I think publicly that pets need vaccination.

Wilkening request the City Staff do more research on licensing and fees regarding this ordinance, then to come back at the next meeting to discuss this further.

Ekholm requests that Jack and Betty Thomas be invited to look over the animal ordinance draft that we have started. The Board notes that Jack and Betty Thomas are involved in the future animal shelter PAWS & CLAWS going up in Hackensack.

**8. Adjourn.** The meeting of the planning commission was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.