

SANPETE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING (Work Meeting)

January 9, 2009, 9:00 A.M.

Sanpete County Courthouse, 160 North Main, Room 303, Manti, Utah

Present are: Commission Chair Claudia Jarrett, Commissioners Spencer Cox and Steve Frischknecht, County Attorney Ross Blackham, County Clerk Sandy Neill, and Zoning Administrator Lee Holmstead.

Meeting is called to order by Commission Chair Claudia Jarrett.

WORK MEETING

The purpose of this work meeting is to discuss the up and coming proposed ordinance amendment for youth homes and group homes. County Attorney Ross explains that our current ordinance states that we can impose density and spacing limitations, but we haven't set a standard for these in the past. The state and federal definitions of disability are very broad. The proposed ordinance amendment will impose density and spacing requirements. The proposed requirements were chosen after reviewing requirements in other areas of the state. The recommended density requirement is the same in both types of housing. There is a common feeling that these homes devalue the property around them. There have been no national studies that have supported that assumption. The county ordinance change will only apply to the unincorporated areas of the county. Homes with disabled persons would no longer require a conditional use permit under the new ordinance. A person recovering from an addiction is considered disabled.

Discussion as to whether we will be ready to adopt the ordinance changes, or whether more study will need to be done first. Our proposed ordinance has good foundation and support, and is used all over the state. It's based on a model ordinance done after a study in Ogden. The Ogden City study showed that some counties don't have any of these homes, and some had a lot. The study was inconclusive as to why there is such a difference.

Sanpete County does not have a county-wide dog ordinance, that enforces limiting the number of dogs, or requiring leashes. Part of the reason one hasn't been adopted is there is a different nature of property in the county than in the cities, and it would be hard to enforce in the county. It's possible that the cities and towns may be able to help with the enforcement through contracts. Presently big problems are handled through the state nuisance ordinances.

The county will review the water source protection ordinance that needs to be in place in the next few years. This new ordinance could impact building and agriculture.

The meeting is adjourned at 10:36 A.M.

ATTEST: Sandy Neill
Sandy Neill
Sanpete County Clerk

APPROVED: Claudia Jarrett
Claudia Jarrett
Commission Chair