

Amana Colonies Land Use District
Minutes of the Public Input Session
November 9, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom App

An in-person meeting is not possible due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the small size of the ACLUD meeting room, which does not provide enough room to maintain social distance between those attending.

- I. Call Public Input Session to Order. Amana Colonies Land Use District Board of Trustees President Lynn Trumpold called the Public Input Session to Order at 7:00 p.m. Present: L. Trumpold, Cherie Hansen-Rieskamp, Bruce Trumpold, Joe Parcell, Laura Kay Sheely, Andrew Conquest, and Administrator Elly Hoehnle. Also present were several members of the public
- II. Set Agenda. Motion by B. Trumpold, second by Hansen-Rieskamp, to set the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
- III. Receive input from community members and local business owners on the matter of merchandise being displayed outside businesses at times other than those specifically allowed. [*See Section 31.36.060(C)(4) – Minimum Open Space. The total land area devoted to open space and landscaping shall not be less than twenty (20) percent of the gross land area included in the building lot. Such open space shall be maintained as grassed and landscaped area and shall not include access drives, parking areas, structures, or buildings; except ornamental structures included as part of the landscaping theme, and except as provided as follows. The Board of Trustees authorizes that open space may be used on a limited basis for the display and sale of goods, in booths and stands, and similar activities on special festival days and other events for a maximum of four consecutive days, excluding setup and tear down. Amended Feb. 2014 to specifically allow limited use of minimum open space in HP-C zoning districts.*]
 - a. Comments from R.C. Eichacker. Served on various committees of the Land Use over 25 years. He is a former business owner. He wants to see an emphasis on control of appearance and the use of land, and offered the appearance of several houses, lawns, in West Amana as an example of what we do not want to see. Stated that there is a need to control the exterior appearance of businesses as it affects businesses and the surrounding residential areas. He encourages a conservative approach. He is expressly concerned about a series of antique shops as the display starts just outside the building, then the display moves to the grassy areas and the sometimes along the roadway. Hold onto the ordinance as intended. He sees a need to look behind why the businesses put stuff out-to get people into their shops.
 - b. Comments from Susan Matrice (via email-the Administrator read the comments into the record). First and foremost, as a member living in this community, preserving the integrity of our beautiful Amana heritage is extremely important to me. As a business owner, I realize that this topic will directly impact my future anticipations of displaying outdoor flowers and decor for my new business. Here are my thoughts: 1) Business owners that wish to display merchandise outside the business building should be a **member** of the Amana Colonies Convention & Business Bureau. As a member of ACCVB we pay for advertising and pay a percentage of revenue that goes back into the community. 2) The business should have a **sign** that displays that it is a business and should be in compliance to all Amana policies and ordinances. 3) Businesses that wish to display outdoor merchandise should be able to **apply** for an **outdoor merchandising permit**. This permit is subject to approval by the board. The business must again be in compliance to all Amana policies and ordinances and must submit a merchandising display plan. This plan would

outline what is to be displayed and how much is to be displayed outside. 4) I would also suggest that any business that would like to have the option to display outside that the bulk of the merchandise not be outside. There must be a **percentage of inventory inside**. 5) That idea leads to how much merchandise would be allowed outside. My thoughts on that would be no more than a particular percentage. This would be covered when the merchandising display plan would be submitted for approval when businesses apply for their outdoor merchandising permit. Just to remind you, I am a business owner that is going to be directly impacted on this topic. I've spent a lot of time thinking about what would be fair across the board, preserve Amana, and help business owners maximize their revenue potential. I am completely open to other suggestions.

- c. Comments from Janice Rawson. Wants to gather information as to what people are thinking. Will reserve saying anything until she has time to think about it. Six years ago, there was a spirit of cooperation with the Board. She appreciates the desire to protect the historical component of the Amanas. Wants the Board to be aware of the financial impact on businesses. Reiterated that she appreciates the desire to protect the historical significance of the area. She will participate to whatever degree she can and hopes the Board will find something that works for everyone.

- IV. Adjourn Public Input Session. Motion by B. Trumpold, second by Parcell, to adjourn the Public Input Session. Motion carried 6-0. The session was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Amana Colonies Land Use District
Minutes of the Trustees Meeting
November 9, 2020 – Following the Public Input Session
Via Zoom App

An in-person meeting is not possible due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and the small size of the ACLUD meeting room, which does not provide enough room to maintain social distance between those attending.

- I. Call Meeting to Order. Amana Colonies Land Use District Board of Trustees President Lynn Trumpold called the meeting to order at 7: p.m. Present: L. Trumpold, Cherie Hansen-Rieskamp, Bruce Trumpold, Joe Parcell, Laura Kay Sheely, Andrew Conquest, and Administrator Elly Hoehnle. Also present were members of the public
- II. Set Agenda. Motion by Sheely, second by Conquest, to set the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0
- III. Review/Approve:
 - a. October regular meeting minutes. Motion by Sheely, second by B. Trumpold, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
 - b. October special meeting minutes. Motion by Sheely, second by Conquest, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.
- IV. Welcome visitors and allow citizens to speak on items not on the agenda. none
- V. Review/Approve November disbursements. Motion by Parcell, second by B. Trumpold, to pay the bills. Motion carried 6-0.
- VI. Review/Approve October Treasurer's Report. Motion by B. Trumpold, second by Conquest, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried 6-0
- VII. Other Business
 - a. Discussion:
 - i. current matters before the Trustees
 - ii. review of old discussion items
 - iii. discussion of goalsRegarding items i. and ii., the Administrator offered the following items. 1. A review of the fence ordinances with suggested changes is in process. More on this matter at the December meeting. 2. A photography contest was developed and implemented in 2020. Information for the 2021 contest has already been released. 3. A Historic Preservation Grant program was developed and then implemented in 2020. 4. Information was provided about the allowed use of Hotel/Motel taxes received. 5. Ongoing violations. 6. Continuing legal matter with owner of 705 47th Ave. 7. There is an open position on the Board of Adjustment.
Regarding item iii., it was decided that one of the first agenda items at the December meeting will be a work session for the Trustees to discuss and set goals for the next year or so.
 - b. Bank Resolution 2020-01. Motion by Parcell, second by L. Trumpold, to approve the resolution as presented.
 - c. Discussion/Action: Authorize changes to Historic Preservation Grant materials to allow the Administrator to issue permits for projects awarded an Amana Colonies Land Use District Historic Preservation Grant. The Administrator will draft language including the provisions outlined on page 136

of the ordinances and send to Trustees in advance of the December meeting so that a vote may be held in December.

d. Discussion/Action: request from Iowa County Engineer Nick Amelon for a joint meeting regarding sidewalks in the Land Use District. The LUD does not currently have an ordinance on sidewalk infrastructure. Consensus was to invite Amelon to the December meeting for a preliminary discussion. After a preliminary discussion, Trustees may decide to proceed with the meeting Amelon requested involving Trustees (no more than 3 Trustees) , the Iowa County Supervisors, Iowa County Attorney, and the Co. Engineer.

e. Discussion/Action: businesses blocking parking spaces. Trustees discussed the matter and will continue their discussion at their December meeting.

f. Discussion/Action: 2021 tentative meeting schedule. The Administrator presented a proposed meeting schedule. No changes were requested.

Conquest reported that several people have approached him about the length of time it takes before an applicant is able to appear before the HPC and then the BOT to have a permit approved. Conquest proposed meeting twice a month so that permits can be expedited. L. Trumpold: not interested in meeting more frequently. Sheely: remind homeowners of the process. The Administrator reviewed the timeline for a permit to be issued (can take 3-6 weeks); important for people to plan ahead; we can always do better in communicating the information people need. Parcell: with major projects especially, people should be planning way ahead. Sheely: we can always do a better job with awareness. (pull monthly transfer of title report)

g. Appointments:

i. Elisha Presson-TePoel to a 5-year term on the Historic Preservation Commission

ii. Stephanie Herr to a 5-year term on the Board of Adjustment.

Motion by B. Trumpold, second by Parcell, to appoint Elisha Presson-TePoel to a 5-year term on the HPC and appoint Stephanie Herr to a 5-year term on the BOA. Conquest objected to the appointments as he would like to have Presson-TePoel and Herr in attendance at the meeting where their appointments are being considered. Motion carried 4-1-1 with Conquest voting nay and Hansen-Rieskamp abstaining. The Administrator reports that there is still an open position on the Board of Adjustment.

VIII. Administrator's Report. Separate report.

IX. President's Report. No report. Conquest asked about the farm building that was relocated to main street. The Administrator will provide information about the permit for that project to the Trustees.

X. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Sheely, second by Conquest. Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Lynn Trumpold, ACLUD BOT President

Eleanor S. Hoehnle, Administrator

The Amana Colonies Land Use District Board of Trustees was established and its members duly elected in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 303, Code of Iowa, subsections 303.41 through 303.68. All activities of the Board of Trustees in exercising its corporate authority including the election of officers, meetings and public hearings, expenditure of funds, appointment of Boards and employees are public records, and are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 303, Code of Iowa. All Amana Colonies Land Use District Board of Trustees meetings are open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend the meetings.