



GERLACH/EMPIRE CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD

SERVING THE CITIZENS OF GERLACH & EMPIRE, NEVADA

June 10, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC PRESENT
Vernon Ausbrooks	None	4 Residents, 1 Guest
Matthew Ebert		
Patty Hanneman		
Faith Keller		
Donna Potter		

Guest: Roger Pelham, Washoe County Department of Community Development and Eric Close, Planning and Compliance Consultant for Black Rock City, LLC

The meeting was called to order by Donna Potter at 5:30 p.m. Patty read the minutes of the March 11, 2004 meeting, which had been emailed to each member of the CAB, as well as Commissioner Weber and Bob Webb of the Dept. of Community Development. Mr. Ausbrooks moved that the minutes be approved as read, the motion was seconded by Ms. Keller and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ebert read the minutes for the April 8, 2004 meeting, which he had prepared in the absence of GECAB secretary Ms. Hanneman. There was a lengthy debate on exactly what was said, particularly pertaining to "substantial conformance", and what the understanding of the CAB members were, pertaining to the percentage of material that would be allowed to stick up past the 8' high sight obscuring fence, under SUP SW04-004 for Wholesale Storage and Distribution.

The main issue is that Mr. Ausbrooks made the motion to approve SW04-004 with the impression and understanding that items coming under the "Wholesale Storage and Distribution" category would be placed in the 187,000 square foot location obscured by the 8' fence. However, according to Roger Pelham, that is not the case. Therefore, the minutes of the April 8th were approved as read and further clarification that the 8' fence would conceal from view everything within the 187,000 square foot location, within a 10% margin.

Donna stated that the GECAB agenda had been posted at the Empire Post Office, Empire Farms, Bruno's County Club, Bruno's Shell Station, Gerlach Post Office, U.S. Gypsum Company plant, Gerlach Senior Center, Washoe County Road Department, Gerlach Medical Clinic, and the GGID office. She asked that the postings be an agenda item to conform to open meeting laws.

GECAB Meeting June 10, 2004 Page 2

A lengthy discussion ensued pertaining to the 187,000 square foot storage area, and the 3 Special Use Permits submitted by Black Rock City, LLC. Roger explained that there is no definition of what an "operable vehicle" constitutes, unlike inoperable vehicles, so there could conceivably be many that exceed the 8' height of the "sight obscuring" fence. Kevin Brittner mentioned that south section of the proposed 550' x 340' gravel storage facility should also be enclosed by the 8' high fence. The following questions were asked of both Roger Pelham and Eric Close:

- What percentage of the 187,000 square foot storage area would be used for each of the SUP's (operable vehicle storage, inoperable vehicle storage and wholesale storage and distribution)?
- How many operable vehicles are there to be stored?
- If there were approximately 200 operable vehicles store, approximately how many square feet would be utilized?

None of these questions could be answered by either Roger or Eric. Patty made the motion to table any action on SUP SB04-009 until the board was given more information and the previous questions were answered. The motion was seconded by Faith, but more discussion pursued prior to a vote from the board.

Kevin Brittner and Mike Stewart felt that the 8' fence should be heightened in order to conceal from view any vehicles and/or objects that exceed the 8' height, by any means possible. Roger explained that no matter what method was used to heighten the fence a special use permit and/or a variance would be required. Eric Close apologized for any misunderstand, and stated that he would be receptive to change in order to carry out the wishes of the community.

The consensus was that there are too many issues concerning the 187,000 square foot storage area, related to the visual aspect. Therefore, the GECAB has asked Roger Pelham and Eric Close to provide us with more information regarding our concerns. A special meeting is planned for Thursday, June 24, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gerlach Community Center in order to have a consensus prior to the Board of Adjustment meeting on Thursday, July 1, 2004.

Under old and new business, Ms. Potter informed us that the consolidation of the Gerlach and Wadsworth Township Justice Court was passed. Washoe County is presently considering that Gerlach would not lose the seat, and on occasion, the Justice of the Peace from Wadsworth would hold court in Gerlach.

Also under old and new business, Ms. Potter informed Roger that in certain instances the members of the GECAB are not receiving all necessary documents, i.e. maps, appendices, etc. Roger stated that he would contact Bob Webb and explain our concerns that all members receive the same documents pertaining to issues that affect our community.

With no further business to discuss Ms. Potter moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ebert, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Hanneman, Secretary