



Walker County Planning Commission  
Minutes

March 20, 2025  
Walker County Civic Center  
6:00 PM

**ATTENDEES:**

**Planning Commission Members**

Cindy Askew  
Randy Pittman  
Todd Holt  
Will Ingram  
Rob Walthour  
John Morehouse  
Stan Porter  
Zack Chapman  
Jon Hentz

**Walker County Planning Staff**

Jon Pursley, Planning Director  
Kristy Parker, Planning Commission Secretary

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice Chairman Pittman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Vice Chairman Pittman stated that Michael Haney had resigned as Chairman of the Planning Commission and that he would be acting as Chairman until the Chairwoman appoints someone else.

**II. ROLL CALL:**

**III. READING & APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 20, 2025 MEETING MINUTES:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to approve the February 20th minutes. John Morehouse made a motion to approve the minutes as is. Stan Porter seconded the motion to approve. Zack Chapman abstained from the vote. The vote to approve was unanimous by the remaining members. Motion to approve carried.

**IV. MOTION TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to open the public hearing. Todd Holt made the motion to open the public hearing. Rob Walthour seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion to open the public hearing carried.

## **V. PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **New Business:**

**1. Raymond Keith Murdock:** Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was anyone in the audience for or against this request. Being none Vice Chairman Pittman asked if the applicant was present. Mr. Murdock came forward and stated that he was asking for a variance to build his mother-in-law a house on his property. Stan Porter asked if he was going to deed the property out and Mr. Murdock said that he would like to deed off one acre for her but if not he could leave it in his name. Planning Director Jon Pursley stated that there was enough land there to divide off the required five acres and anything less than that would not meet the Comprehensive Plan. John Morehouse stated that it puts the Planning Commission in a spot where something like this is asked for when there is enough land, but the request goes against the comprehensive plan. Jon Pursley explained that he could build the house on the existing land and not divide it off with it in his name.

**2. Michael Leston:** Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was anyone in the audience for or against this request. Being none Vice Chairman Pittman asked if the applicant was present. Michael Leston came forward and stated that he was not wanting to build another house that when he bought the property there was the house that he lives in and a mobile home already on the property. He would like to divide off half an acre with the mobile home. Jon Pursley stated that by the comprehensive plan the half an acre would not meet the requirements but if he went to one acre it would. Mr. Leston stated that he would be willing to divide the property with one acre.

**3. Safe Future Real Estate:** Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was anyone in the audience for or against this request. Being none Vice Chairman Pittman asked if the applicant was present. No one from Safe Future Real Estate came forward.

## **VI: MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to close the public hearing. Todd Holt made a motion to close the public hearing. John Morehouse seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion to close that public hearing carried.

## **VII: MOTION TO OPEN NEW BUSINESS:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to open the new business. Todd Holt made a motion to open new business. Will Ingram seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion to open new business carried.

## **VIII: NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Raymond Keith Murdock:** Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion. Will Ingram made a motion to deny due to not meeting the comprehensive plan. Zack Chapman seconded the motion to deny. The vote was unanimous. The motion to deny carried.

**2. Michael Leston:** Vice Chairman Pittman asked Mr. Leston if he was saying that now his request was to divide off one acre with the second home so it would meet the comprehensive plan and not the half an acre as stated and he said yes. Vice Chairman Pittman then asked if there was a motion. Zack Chapman stated he had a question and wanted to know how many different types of areas were listed on the comprehensive plan. Jon Pursley stated that he thought around six and that there was a chart in the packet showing all of them and that some were only used in the cities. Zack Chapman then had a few questions regarding the lot size that was requested and Cindy Askew asked Mr. Leston if there were two homes on the property already and he said yes and there would not be anymore homes built. Zack Chapman made a motion to deny due to it not meeting the five acre requirement for that zoning. John Morehouse seconded the motion to deny. Zack Chapman, Jon Hentz, Rob Walthour, Stan Porter, Todd Holt and John Morehouse voted in favor to deny and Cindy Askew and Will Ingram voted against the motion to deny. The motion to deny carried.

**3. Safe Future Real Estate:** Vice Chairman Pittman stated that the applicant was now present. Stan Porter asked if the Board could go back and reopen the public hearing so this request could be heard.

## **IX. MOTION TO REOPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to reopen the public hearing. Stan Porter made the motion to reopen the public hearing. Cindy Askew seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion to reopen the public hearing carried.

## **X. PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **New Business:**

**1. Safe Future Real Estate:** Vice Chairman Pittman asked the applicant to come forward. A representative for Safe Future Real Estate came forward and stated that they were asking to subdivide the property into more lots in order to build more houses. There were no questions or comments.

## **XII: MOTION TO RECLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to reclose the public hearing. Todd Holt made a motion to reclose the public hearing. Will Ingram seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion to reclose the public hearing carried.

**XII: MOTION TO REOPEN NEW BUSINESS:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to reopen the new business. Stan Porter made a motion to reopen new business. Todd Holt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The motion to reopen new business carried.

**XIII: NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Safe Future Real Estate:** Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion. Cindy Askew made a motion to deny due to not fitting in with the rest of the neighborhood and not meeting the lot size requirements. John Morehouse seconded the motion to deny. The motion to deny was unanimous. The motion to deny carried.

**XIV: ADJOURNMENT:**

Vice Chairman Pittman asked if there was a motion to adjourn. Stan Porter made a motion to adjourn. Will Ingram seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion to adjourn carried.

*April 17, 2025*

Date Submitted:

*Landell Pittman*

Planning Commission Vice Chairman

*4-17-2025*

Date Submitted:

*Kristy Parker*

Planning Commission Secretary

*4-17-2025*

Date Submitted:

*John Morehouse*

Planning Commission Director