

South Georgia Regional Library Board

County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item, Mrs. Dukes stated Dr. Darlene Ridley has stated she will no longer be able to serve on the board. Ms. Jane Peeples would like to be appointed to fill the unexpired term and has expressed a desire to serve on this board. Commissioner Griner nominated Ms. Jane Peeples for appointment. There being no other nominations, Ms. Jane Peeples was appointed by acclamation.

PUBLIC HEARING

REZ-2022-10 The Campus Transitional Care Facility, 2193 Howell Road, E-A to P-D, Well & Septic, ~23 acres

County Planner, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated this request is for E-A to P-D zoning on Howell Road in an agricultural-character area, with some wetlands on the northend of the property. Mr. Dillard stated that it is currently heavily wooded and there is one house on the front left of the property located at 2193 Howell Road. Mr. Dillard stated the request for P-D is for the site plan for a recovery residence or sober living facility, as stated in the letter of intent. Mr. Dillard stated the Planning Commission recommended denial. Chairman Slaughter explained each side will get ten minutes and following after both sides are heard, each side will get two minutes to rebuttal.

Savannah Baker, 4046 Old Naylor Road, spoke against the request. Ms. Baker stated this request should be denied due to spot zoning. Ms. Baker gave the definition of spot zoning and gave examples of court cases regarding spot zoning. Ms. Baker stated at the last commission meeting held on March 28, 2023 the vote was tabled until the April 11, 2023 commission meeting. Ms. Baker stated there was no new public notice that was published for today's meeting in the newspaper or new signage at the property for today's meeting. Ms. Baker believes this was insufficient notice for the public and the community has expressed concerns with over 500 letters in opposition and many facts and statistics cited. Ms. Baker stated this rezoning would be unlawful and a complete disregard for the voice of the people represented. James Walker, 4060 Boring Pond Road, spoke against the request. Mr. Walker stated he has lived on Boring Pond Road for twenty-eight years and he is concerned there will be more traffic, growth with the water and sewer, and asks that the rezoning request be denied. Blake Howell, 3417 Boring Pond Road, spoke against the request. Mr. Howell stated he has lived on Boring Pond Road for thirty-eight years and this rezoning goes against the wishes of the community. Mr. Howell stated he has spoken to many citizens within Districts 3 and 5 and this facility goes against the wishes of the community. Mr. Howell stated the Planning Commission denied rezoning due to going against the character area. Mr. Howell asked the Commission to please deny this rezoning request. Mr. Howell stated Redeemed Living could find a more suitable location and respect the wishes of the community, citing do unto others as you would have done unto you. Brent Moore, 3850 C L Moore Road, spoke in favor of the request as the applicant and owner of Redeemed Living. Mr. Moore stated he would like to address a few concerns presented to him within the last twelve months. Mr. Moore stated there are concerns with this facility not being regulated and Mr. Moore stated they are GARR certified (Georgia Association of Recovery Residences), meaning their procedures and guidelines would be followed including passing inspections and offering a suitable living for someone in the program. Mr. Moore stated as part of the GARR certification there is a requirement to drug test for those who will be staying in the facility. Mr. Moore stated he met with Sheriff Paulk and the Sheriff's Deputies will be allowed to access the property with drug dogs at random. Mr. Moore stated all residents will submit a background check and no one will be allowed with a felony charge or sexually related charges. Mr. Moore stated there was a person who spoke in favor of this request one of the previous meetings and he was charged with a battery charge, but not convicted. Further, Mr. Moore stated this individual went through the program, works for a local business and is now working with