



**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES  
PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 23, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair O'Neal at 6:00 p.m. (estimated time). Town Clerk Lakisha Burch then administered the oath of office to Town Manager Francine Ramaglia to swear her in as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Vice Chairperson Bell, Board Members Mr. O'Neal and Ms. Frederich, Town Manager Ms. Ramaglia, and Town Planning Consultant Mr. Fleishman.

**Absent:** Board Members Mr. Rafkowitz and Mr. Ford

The Town Clerk declared a quorum to be present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion made by Vice Chair O'Neal, duly seconded, to approve the agenda. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None on non-agenda items.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**1. Big Dog Ranch Proposed Site Plan Amendment**

Vice Chair O'Neal turned the agenda over to Town Planning Consultant Mr. Jim Fleishman.

Mr. Fleishman introduced the applicant, Ms. Robin Freedman, Executive Director of Big Dog Ranch.

Ms. Freedman advised that she is requesting an expansion of Big Dog Ranch to train dogs for vets with PTSD and to add a new program for dogs of actively deployed military personnel.

Mr. Fleishman gave a brief history of the project and the proposed improvements to expand the living area of dog boarding facility itself.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** *(on Regular Agenda Item #1)*

Cassie Suchy shared a handout with the Board. Ms. Suchy stated that original 2015 approval for Big Dog Ranch was for a much smaller size and was not to be a boarding kennel. Now Big Dog Ranch is advertising an event barn for weddings and parties and public boarding. She asked the expansions and public boarding not be allowed.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Board members questioned Mr. Fleishman regarding AR-FAR zoning, residential versus commercial.

Discussion continued regarding demand for boarding of dogs of members of the military as well as clarification regarding public boarding, advertising, and application conditions.

Vice Chair O'Neal asked for a Motion for Approval and any other considerations for special approval.

**Motion duly made and seconded by to approve the site plan amendment as presented. The motion passed 2-1.**

**SET NEXT MEETING DATE**

There are currently no projects scheduled for the April meeting. Ms. Ramaglia advised that discussions about moving the Planning and Zoning Board Meetings to the 3rd Thursday of the month were ongoing.

**ADJOURN PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MEETING**

There being no further business, a Motion to Adjourn was made and seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. (estimated time).

**TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES, FLORIDA**

**ATTEST:**

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Town Clerk

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Chairperson

Prepared by:  
I. Revelas, Prototype, Inc.