

## Betty Jo Mahan <bettyjo.mahan@knoxmpc.org>

## [MPC Comment] El Charro 3816 Sutherland Avenue

1 message

George Ewart < gewart@georgeewart.com>

Tue, Nov 10, 2015 at 4:20 PM

Reply-To: gewart@georgeewart.com

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<jwroth@qmwkx.com>, "Scott Smith (ssmith@volrealty.com)" <ssmith@volrealty.com>

Cc: Gerald Green <gerald.green@knoxmpc.org>, "Aranda, Juan J." <thearandas@gmail.com>

**Dear Commissioners** 

I want to clarify some points brought up in today's agenda review meeting and they are as follows:

- 1. The Bearden Village Opportunities Plan was prepared in January 2001 and to the best of my knowledge it has never been applied to Sutherland. Since that time a number of developments have occurred on Sutherland Avenue with enough impact that have created many different Opportunities. The creation of a new sports complex, new offices and six restaurants within the Opportunities area and another four within one mile of this location for a total of ten. All of the above captured their own Opportunities. With that in mind, does precedent trump an outdated plan? My answer is yes and all of the developments were per the zoning ordinance.
- 2. There are sixteen uses spelled out in the C-1 zone that are allowable and can be built just as we have drawn without obtaining approval from MPC.
- 3. Each of the ten restaurants mentioned above are all designed and constructed with parking in front of their buildings. Dead End BBQ was a use on review that was approved by MPC in 2009. The building was existing but an addition was added to it on the front elevation. The Opportunities Plan was not applied to this building and the Use was permitted.
- 4. Staff is requesting EL Charro to locate their building in the front of this lot referring to the Opportunities Plan. El Charro's current restaurant on Bearden Hill has parking in the rear and on the side. They have currently sold this piece of property, mainly due to the same building configuration the staff wants them to implement on Sutherland. Their patrons perceive that they are closed because no one can see the parking lot. I ask each one of you, would you spend \$750,000 developing a site that will have the same issues as what they are currently leaving?
- 5. The issues with moving the building closer to the road are the depth of the site and many easements that have been placed on the property. Moving the building would require a front yard variance. Even Mr. Green's drawing in your packet indicates that. It shows the main entrance in the 25' setback, which is 10' deep, requiring a front yard setback variance reducing the front yard to 15'. This requires another public meeting and you will be approving a plan that does not work.
- 6. By placing parking in the rear of the building, lights from cars will be continually spotted on the four residential lots and houses that abut this property.
- 7. Attached is an article from the News Sentinel on why El Charro is still in the area and looking to relocate. Here is the link to the article: http://www.knoxnews.com/business/el-charro-postpones-closure-in-bearden 38491318

With the above in mind, I ask you to approve this Use as submitted and exclude item 4 from the staff's report.

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

Respectfully

George A. Ewart, AIA

## **GEORGE ARMOUR EWART ARCHITECT**

404 Bearden Park Circle | Knoxville Tn. 37919

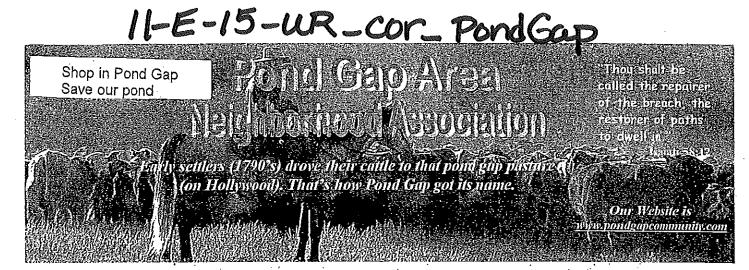
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This message was directed to commission@knoxmpc.org



Our neighborhood welcomes El Charro restaurant and strongly supports their request to the planning commission for approval of a 'use on review' for the site at 3816 Sutherland (next to Breadbox).

Name
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Planning Commission

Address

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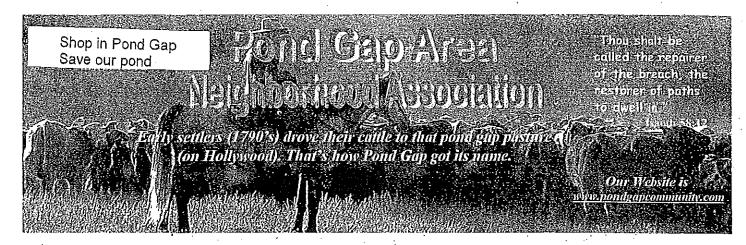
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PO Box 10704
Knoxville TN 37939



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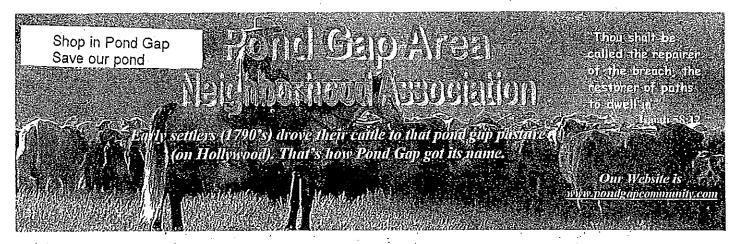
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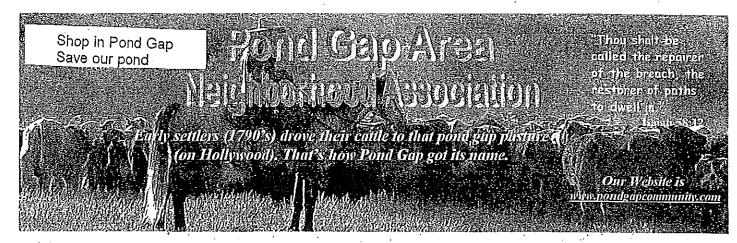
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DAVID LAWSON
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Metropolitan Planning Commission Address

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