'Controversial' rezoning request awaits action

Part 2 of North Cane Creek petition takes in 1,000 parcels

BY CARLOS GALARZA
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — The second leg of a rezoning petition covering approximately 2,400 acres on or near Lake Keowee in the North Cane Creek area is still waiting in the wings.

The Cane Creek petition spearheaded by Jim Codner, president of Advocates for Quality Development, Inc., is one of eight requests still waiting to be brought before the Oconee County Council.

Codner's original petition involved so many parcels (more than 1,300) that the Planning Department had it split.

County Planner Aaron Gadsby said Friday that Codner's second petition involving 1,000 parcels is one of those "controversial" requests that council wants to hold off on for the moment.

The other seven remaining rezoning petitions in the mix include two that are in conflict with Codner's.

One of them belongs to West Union businessman and community leader Jess Neville.

Neville has 265 acres in the North Cane Creek vicinity that he wants rezoned as Traditional Rural District. Parcels in Codner's petition seek to be rezoned Lake Residential or Residential.

Gadsby said the 200-acre Mathis farm petition to be rezoned Traditional Rural also is in conflict with Codner's.

Gadsby said that he's also recorded the request of about 10 property owners who fall inside of Codner's request that also want to be in the Traditional Rural District.

Lilly Mae Davis, one of the property owners who doesn't want to be pulled in by the Codner petition, is tired of waiting for a resolution.

"There has been nothing done with my petition," Davis said. "Maybe they're waiting to finish making changes to the zoning districts."

Codner's first rezoning petition also was in conflict with a request by North Fairview community property owners.

Jean Jennings, David and Michelle McMahan and others wanted to be rezoned TRD. Instead, they were rezoned into an Agricultural Residential District that was created after they had filed their request to be in TRD.

Council and the Planning Commission members have their hands full now with a Keowee Key/Stamp Creek rezoning petition that contains 2,800 parcels.

carlos@dailyjm.com | (864) 973-6685

7/9/11