

FIGHT

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of Adjustment is going to request to waive the fee," committee chairman Scott Holewinski said. "We'd be waiving it for everybody."

Bauer said he understands why the committee denied the fee waiver. But, he said, "I still don't understand why I'm treated differently."

Bauer said he is not sure whether he will file an appeal with the Board of Adjustment, and said going to court is always a possibility. But he also said he might hold off on any action until the Planning and Zoning Committee hears back from Desmond as to whether the county may exempt signs only for property owners, or whether such an exemption must be open to others.

"For some reason they seem to think that the real estate change might impact me in a positive way, so I may wait until that comes out," Bauer said.

A large contingent of real estate agents attended Tuesday's meeting and spoke in support of the petition to soften restrictions on signs. But the committee also received correspondence from numerous public officials – namely town chairmen – who

expressed opposition to the Realtors' petition.

The Planning and Zoning Committee will review draft language of a proposed ordinance amendment allowing property owners to post off-premise for-sale signs at a meeting that has not yet been scheduled, according to Holewinski.

A representative from the Northwoods Association of Realtors did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Also on Tuesday, the committee forwarded three resolutions to the full county board for final approval. Two of the resolutions are amendments to the county's zoning and shoreland protection ordinance: one amendment would allow decks to be built closer to the water's edge, while the other amendment would allow flat-top boathouses. The third resolution is a formal statement in opposition to proposed limitations on impervious surfaces in NR115 – the shoreland-zoning rules administered by the state Department of Natural Resources.

The full county board will consider all three resolutions at its August meeting.

Jonathan Anderson may be reached at janderson@lakeland-times.com

Auction duo



Dean Hall photograph

Tara Nolan (left) and Lisa Africano (right) help auction vintage bottles of wine during the live auction at the "Wine in the Woods and Beer by the Bog" fundraiser Saturday, July 13, at the North Lakeland Discovery Center.

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