



Meeting Minutes

Planning Commission

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501
Contact: Joyce Phillips
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Monday, May 15, 2017

6:30 PM

Room 207

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mark called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1.A ROLL CALL

Commissioner Kamkar arrived after the roll call was taken.

Present: 7 - Chair Brian Mark, Commissioner Travis Burns, Commissioner Rad Cunningham, Commissioner Paula Ehlers, Commissioner Darrell Hoppe, Commissioner Negheen Kamkar and Commissioner Carole Richmond

Excused: 1 - Vice Chair Mike Auderer

OTHERS PRESENT

Community Planning and Development:
Senior Planner, Joyce Phillips
Office Specialist/Minutes Recorder, Stacey Rodell
Public Works:
Water Resources Director, Andy Haub
Engineering and Planning Manager, Eric Christensen

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.A [17-0527](#) Approval of the May 1, 2017 Olympia Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Phillips announced the following:

- The Planning Commission retreat will be Saturday, September 30, 2017 from

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Harbor House.

- A public hearing is scheduled for the June 5, 2017 Planning Commission meeting. Please make every attempt to be present - we will need a quorum of members for the public hearing.
- There were three major planning conferences last week that many planning staff attended:
 - Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association (Chelan)
 - Congress of New Urbanism/Urban Land Institute (Seattle and the Cascade Region)
 - National American Planning Association (NYC)
- Upcoming Site Plan Review Committee projects:
 - Briggs Village Multi Family North - Five three-story buildings for a total of 72 residential units
 - Village at Mill Pond Phase 2 - 45 residential lots
 - Thurston County Parking Renovation - Install a new security fence and gate around the existing parking lot for judicial staff. Install stairs and a walkway to provide direct access between the parking lot and employee entrance.
 - Annie's Artists Flats Recommendation
 - Capital High School Baseball Field House Pre-submission
 - Roosevelt Elementary School Remodel Pre-submission

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

6.A [17-0447](#) Update on Sea Level Rise Planning

Mr. Haub and Mr. Christensen presented an update on sea level rise planning via a PowerPoint presentation. They reported on the following:

- Developing a response
- National Research Council West Coast Projections - 2012
- Frequency of downtown flooding
- Olympia's Comprehensive Plan - 2014
- Sea rise planning
- 2017 planning goal
- Planning dynamics
- Magnitude and timing
- Shared understanding
- Planning approach
- Leading the plan
- Sea rise response
- Elevated or flood-proofed buildings
- The Plan - 2017/2018 - turn risk and vulnerability into strategies and decisions
- Storm drainage system
- Storm system modification
- Elevate landscapes

- Planter box barriers
- Flood barriers
- Elevated roadways
- Shoreline ownership

The City webpage includes an interactive map that can help with understanding how sea rise could affect the downtown area. The website address is:
www.olympiawa.gov/sealevelrise

The information was received.

7. REPORTS

Commissioner Cunningham reported the National Parks Council is offering technical assistance to cities. Also the Recreation and Conservation Office is offering a fifty percent matching grant to invest in parks.

Commissioner Watts announced her resignation from the Planning Commission due to changes in her personal career. Ms. Phillips presented her with a certificate of appreciation and the Commissioners thanked Commissioner Watts for her service on the Commission.

Commissioner Richmond reported she attended the Congress for New Urbanism conference. She also announced the upcoming Missing Middle open house which will be on May 18, 2017 at Olympia High School.

Commissioner Hoppe reported he volunteered with a non-profit organization to install bee hives on the roof of the Food Bank building. He also joined the observation of the May Day event on May 1, 2017 and commended the Olympia Police Department and other City departments on their work of dealing with the May Day protesters.

Chair Mark reported on a recent article on Thurston Talks featuring Commissioner Cunningham. Chair Mark also reported on his work with Northeast Neighborhood Association (NENA) and their recent submittal of an application for the City's Neighborhood Matching Grant program. NENA plans on repainting the neighborhood mural, cleaning up the kiosk, starting a program called "NENA Nights" for neighbor gatherings and night hikes for children in Mission Creek. He also reported the Arts Commission closed its gateways survey on May 12, 2017.

Commissioner Kamkar indicated she is thankful that her daytime job should be slowing down a bit which will allow her more time to focus on work of the Planning Commission. She briefly reported on her feelings about the May Day protests.

Commissioner Ehlers provided a brief report on the Missing Middle workgroup meeting she attended.

8. OTHER TOPICS

Chair Mark provided a review of the Community Values and Vision chapter of the City of Olympia's Comprehensive Plan via a PowerPoint presentation.

This chapter of the Comprehensive Plan:

- Is the foundation for the vision and action plan
- Is the gateway to the rest of the comprehensive plan
- Communicates what the citizens of Olympia value

What Olympians value:

- Public participation and partners
 - Through collaborative and open discussions, Olympians embrace a shared responsibility to make our community a better place.
- Our natural environment
 - A beautiful natural setting that is preserved and enhanced
- Land use and urban design
 - A walkable, vibrant city.
- Transportation
 - Complete streets that move people, not just cars.
- Utilities
 - Clean, plentiful water and significant reduction of waste.
- Public health, arts, parks and recreation
 - A healthy, fun and enriching place to live.
- Economy
 - Olympia's economy is healthy due to a diverse mix of new and existing employment sectors, in addition to being the center of state government.
- Public Services
 - Responsive services and affordable housing for all.

Conclusion:

- Requires a sincere dedication to include all voices
- Requires a willingness to guide our city in the right direction outside of our own individual interests
- Requires that we work together as a team to create a climate of inclusion and collaboration

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.