



City of Olympia

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360-753-8447

Meeting Minutes - Draft Land Use & Environment Committee

Thursday, April 11, 2013

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

1. ROLL CALL

Present: 3 - Chair Steve Langer, Committee Member Julie Hankins and Committee Member Jeannine Roe

STAFF PRESENT

Community Planning and Development Director Keith Stahley, Project Planner Gary Cooper, Business Manager Karen Kenneson, Water Resources Planner Liz Hoenig

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Langer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.A 13-0298 Approval of March 28, 2013 Land Use & Environment Committee Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Roe moved, seconded by Councilmember Langer, to approve the March 28, 2013 minutes. Minutes were approved as presented unanimously.

Committee Member Roe moved, seconded by Chair Langer, to approve the minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Chair Langer, Committee Member Hankins and Committee Member Roe

4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

4.A 13-0291 Shoreline Restoration Plan

Project Planner Gary Cooper delivered a presentation on the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Restoration Plan. Key elements of the presentation were as follows:

1. All jurisdictions updating Shoreline Master Programs are also required to complete Shoreline Restoration Plans.
2. The City's Shoreline Restoration Plan was completed by drawing on information from a variety of sources, including the Squaxin Island Tribe's Budd Inlet and Conservation Planning (2010).

3. While environmental resources have been prioritized for protection, with water quality being priority #1, specific restoration projects have not been prioritized.
4. The requirement to complete a restoration plan does not include a requirement that the projects in the plan are implemented. Implementation is a local decision.
5. Currently there is no established framework for carrying forward and implementing projects identified in the restoration plan - the plan could be used simply as a reference document or could be developed into something more like an action plan.

Chair Langer and Committee Member Roe stated they would like to see the plan developed further if possible, rather than sit on the shelf.

Mr. Stahley stated that moving the plan forward would entail folding it into the Capital Facilities planning process.

Committee members concurred they would like to have more information on what would be entailed by moving the plan forward at the next Committee meeting.

Mr. Stahley stated that he would prepare an outline of next steps.

The report was received.

4.B 13-0295 Status Report on Pay Station Replacement Project and Parking Makeover

Business Manager Karen Kenneson presented an update. The City received four proposals on the pay station replacement project and the selection committee will select the top two candidates on April 12. During the month of May the meters from both candidates will be field tested. The field test will provide an opportunity to get feedback from customers, businesses, and parking staff.

The efforts to accomplish a “parking makeover” were presented and included the following vision statement:

- A ticket-free experience
- Easy to access
- Convenient for both short- and long-term users
- Intuitive
- Adaptable
- Financially sound

Committee Member Hankins asked if we have weighed the difference between visual clutter and usability. Staff stated no, not at this time.

Committee Member Roe said she has concerns that downtown employees are minimum wage people who have nowhere else to park and have we considered options to help them out? Staff stated yes, there is a monthly permit for 9 hour meters.

Committee Member Roe noted one city she visited gave parking discounts for minimum wage earners. She likes the team/ambassador approach to change the image. Also, she is interested to hear what the greatest number of complaints are that parking staff hear.

Committee Member Roe said it would be great to change signage so people know where to park and asked for a map that shows downtown parking options. She also asked how other cities handle the tokens program. Ms. Kenneson replied that businesses often purchase the tokens and give them to customers.

Chair Langer asked if there is a way to show people how parking meter revenues get spent.

The report was received.

4.C 13-0277 2015-2020 Water System Plan Update

Water Resources Planner Liz Hoenig gave a presentation on the 2015-2020 Water System Plan Update. She said work is underway to complete the City's updated water system plan by April 2015 for submittal to the Washington State Department of Health. The presentation covered the following areas:

- Planning Framework
- Strategic Issues
- Draft goals
- Outreach
- Schedule

Chair Langer noted, with regard to groundwater, LOTT has been discussing the application of solids in the future that could be a potential impact.

Committee Member Hankins asked if we have jurisdictional agreements that help ensure drinking water is being well protected in other jurisdictions. Ms. Hoenig stated the Critical Areas ordinances are the best tool for that. There is also specific zoning in the area of Olympia's primary water source, the McAllister Springs Geologically Sensitive Area (MGSA) zoning.

Chair Langer asked about disaster preparedness. Ms. Hoenig said the City has an emergency response plan, a contingency plan, and a drought response plan.

The report was received.

4.D 13-0289 Status Report on Ad Hoc Community Review Area (CRA) Committee Work

Mr. Stahley delivered a presentation on the Community Renewal Act. He said there is an abundance of community outreach and community interaction incorporated into the process. The purpose of the CRA project is as follows:

- Identify redevelopment opportunities and implementation options for areas of the

City of Olympia; areas will be designated by the advisory committee based on ECO team's market analysis, staff and advisory committee knowledge, and other research of the areas identified in the RFQ process, but will not include Downtown Olympia. Downtown Olympia is captured in Component B, as described below.

- Identify what land is to be acquired, buildings demolished or redeveloped, and what improvements are to be carried out to revitalize each area.
- Analyze market conditions and realities, as well as public tool kit, to help determine project feasibility and priority.
- Create an action plan with clear next steps for project implementation.

Committee Member Hankins asked if the public can attend the stakeholder meetings. Mr. Stahley stated probably not because they will be narrowly focused.

Committee Member Hankins asked if it was possible to have one public meeting before meeting with stakeholders. Mr. Stahley said the Ad Hoc Committee considered this and reversed the order to do stakeholders first.

Mr. Stahley stated that outreach has already begun with the Olympia Downtown Association Economic Development Committee. The consultant also advises creating a Citizens Advisory Committee.

Committee Member Roe said it might be a good improvement to also involve new faces so we don't hear the same messages. The name of Walker John was mentioned as a possibility.

Committee Member Hankins stated a need for someone to educate the public on what this is all about.

The report was received.

4.E 13-0302 Oral Reports: Status Reports and Updates

Committee Member Roe reported she has a full day retreat on Sunday the 14th with PBI.

The report was received.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.