

City of Lynnwood
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
August 12, 2004

Commissioners present:

Dave Johnson – Chair
Brian Bigler
Patrick Decker
Elisa Elliott
Tia Peycheff
Jacqueline Powers
Donna Walther

Staff present:

Jim Cutts, Director
Ron Hough, Planning Manager

Others present:

Sandy Howe, Public Works Technician
Arnold Kay, Public Works Supervisor
Council Member Ted Hikel
Council Member Lisa Utter

SUMMARY OF THE August 12, 2004, MEETING MINUTES

LMC 17: Environmentally Critical Areas (Work Session)

Public Works Dept. staff presented proposed changes to this chapter of the City's code to meet GMA requirements, incorporate "Best Available Science," add definitions, etc. A question and answer period followed the presentation.

Comprehensive Plan Amendments (Work Session)

A work session opportunity was held to give the Commissioners a chance to discuss any of this year's proposals or to ask questions of staff prior to the continued hearing on Aug. 26.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Johnson called this meeting to order at 7:03 pm. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Planning Commission directed a change to the minutes to clarify the two different Raskin proposals and his proposed right-of-way vacation. Chair Johnson also asked that the minutes be consistent in referring to him as "Chair Johnson." A motion was then made to approve the July 22, 2004 meeting minutes with the identified corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

COMMISSION MEMBER DISCLOSURES

Dave Johnson informed the commission that he works part time as a faculty member at Edmonds Community College and in no way would this interfere with any decision he makes.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Joint Meeting with City Council:

Chair Johnson reminded the Commission that a joint meeting with the City Council is held each year and it's time to talk about the next one. He offered three possibilities; (1) a joint meeting in the Council Chambers, (2) a social event outside City Hall, or (3) some combination of social and business. He asked for suggestions or preferences.

Council Member Lisa Utter indicated that there were no "hot issues" that needed discussion right now, but a number of things that could be discussed. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that a joint meeting should be planned at a location outside City Hall on the second Thursday of October.

WORK SESSION

LMC 17: Environmentally Critical Areas

Arnold Kay, Division Services Supervisor for the Public Works Department introduced Sandy Howe, the new Environmental Engineer for Public Works. The consulting firm of Jones and Stokes is also involved in this project.

Mr. Kay briefed the Commission on the proposed amendments to Chapter 17 of the Lynnwood Municipal Code. Some of the more significant changes will be to requirements related to wetland buffers, signing and fencing, steep slopes and penalties.

The Commissioners had a number of specific questions and comments, including:

- Commissioner Elliott asked for and received an explanation for the removal of Section 17.10.056 which pertains to buffers.
- Commissioner Bigler offered another reference to consider for defining essential fish habitat.
- Mr. Kay mentioned that the code must address "best available science." Commissioner Bigler noted that the more common term is "best available scientific and commercial information." This allows good information from commercial sources and opens up other sources besides the common published sources.
- Page 14; Section 17.10.053 was discussed regarding wetland buffer width. Items C and D are added and staff explained how buffers that passed underneath roadways or trails were addressed.
- Page 17; Wetland Mitigation Plan, Item D, The proposal says a monitoring report will be submitted for a period of 5 years. Commissioner Bigler pointed out that the Corp. of Engineers requires a 10-year monitoring period.
- Commissioner Bigler suggested that a definition of the term "Mitigation" be added.
- Page 22 and 23; Item 2 – Mitigation for loss of stream system functional values. Commissioner Bigler felt this task would be extreme experimentation.
- Page 22 and 23; Item 4 –Sampling surface and sub-surface water to determine pollutant loading. Commission Bigler feels this is extraordinary and onerous.

Commissioner Bigler agreed to meet with Mr. Kay and Ms. Howe during the following week to discuss the above items at greater length.

Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Planning Manager Ron Hough explained that the Commission had studied the proposed amendments in earlier work sessions and had held a public hearing on July 22. This work session falls between the public hearing and its extension (Aug. 26) and provides the

Commission with another opportunity to discuss the proposals or ask for additional information from staff. The staff report includes "administration recommendations" and the Commission may want to arrive at preliminary recommendations of its own, which could be finalized following the close of its hearing.

Following a brief discussion, the Commission decided to postpone all recommendations until after the public hearing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT & INFORMATION

Recent City Council Actions:

Planning Manager Hough provided an update of recent City Council activities, specifically:

❖ August 6, 2004

Comp. Plan Amendments – Was scheduled for a Council work sessions. However, an extensive "Scooter Ordinance" discussion left no time for the Plan Amendments discussion. It was continued to August 18. The Council's final work session is scheduled for Sept. 7.

❖ September 13, 2004

Comp. Plan Amendments – Council public hearing is scheduled.

Snohomish County:

Comprehensive Plan 10-Year Update

- Land Use Preferred Alternative is being prepared for action next spring.
- County Planning Commission is interested in meeting with city commissions to discuss growth issues in October or November. The Commissioners indicated an interest in participating.

Upcoming Planning Commission Meetings:

Planning Manager Hough described upcoming agenda items, including:

- Shoreline Master Program – work is continuing on this project.
- Transition Resolution
 - Snohomish County Tomorrow (SCT) sent this to each City for Council consideration. It will be on the Commission's August 26 agenda.
- City Center Plan
 - October 6 – Council will open its Public Hearing, then continue it to October 11.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Dave Johnson, Chair