

**City of Buckley**  
**Planning Commission Minutes**  
**January 27, 2014**

Chairperson Helmer called meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The following members were present: Harris, Howse, Leggett and Wink. Also in attendance was City Planner Thompson.

**Harris moved to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2014 commission meeting. Howse seconded the motion and the motion carried.**

**Comprehensive Plan Updates and Comments**

Thompson stated we are a little behind; the park plan is still in process. Thompson stated she and Recreation Director Boyd are still working on the Park Plan. The Economic Development we will be working on tonight. Thompson stated she met with Harris last Friday and they worked on the Housing Element. Helmer asked about the Open House for the Economic Development that is supposed to be scheduled for February, do we actually need an open house. Thompson stated no we do not. Discussion ensued. Harris thinks it is important to have the open house. Thompson stated she would like to combine the Economic Development with the Housing Element because there is a housing element to the economic element. Helmer stated we originally talked about housing and urban development being done together. The commission was in agreement that combine housing with urban development. The open house will be March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM for Economic Development. Thompson stated also on the participation plan we have an email from the Health District, which gives the Planning Commission some ideas to make the city a healthy city. She would like to come to one of the meetings to present some materials. Thompson stated her name is Amy Pow and she will invite her to the next meeting. Thompson stated we still don't have anything on Capital Facilities.

**Economic Development**

The Commission then went over the Economic Development information that was provided to them via power point and made changes as discussed in the meeting. There were comments from the Council that have been integrated into this document, and there were comments that Helmer made that have also been incorporated into this document. Helmer asked if we are able to get updated statistics for the Non-Agricultural Occupation, the one on the document is 2000. Thompson stated the updated information is listed below the table. Helmer asked about FIRE should it be listed as Public Safety. Thompson stated it has nothing to do with Fire; it stands for Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Leasing. Helmer

asked if we should add in Public Employees which would include police, fire, and city employees. Thompson stated she is not sure services like city employees are on here. Helmer is not sure what this table provides for the economic development plan, this is something to think about. Helmer stated one thing he has discussed with Thompson is the statement under Economic strategy "Buckley lacks the services and amenities for park visitors"; his question is what services and amenities for park visitors. Howse stated that it may mean that it lacks places to stay and places to eat. A lengthy discussion ensued. Thompson made some changes to the language based on the discussion. There was then a discussion on Policy 3.1, Thompson stated she re wrote this policy and showed it to the commission. Thompson stated one note she has is to define the small attributes and character. This is mentioned throughout the entire Comprehensive Plan. Harris stated the question is what constitutes a small town, what do we mean by that. Leggett stated under 5,000 people, Helmer agreed. Harris stated in her mind it has to do as much with culture as it does with numbers. Discussion ensued about people not knowing what is going on in Buckley or what services are available in Buckley. There was talk about banners across the highway, doing an arch across the highway or even just a street sign on the Highway saying it is Main Street. Thompson then made some notes based on the discussion. There were more discussion based on the signage, there may be some changes that need to be done to the sign ordinance to accommodate what the Planning Commission had been discussing.

### **Housing Element**

Because of the time, the Commission decided to tackle this element at the next meeting.

### **Urban Design**

Howse stated she needs to know how much detail needs to be added in this because they talk about sidewalks and trails and she agrees shouldn't be completely taken out but how much focus on design should we really have to do. If there is anything the rest of the commission thinks is wasted space and needs to be removed, let her know.

### **New/Old Business**

Thompson stated as part of the Comprehensive Plan we need to create a map, the one we currently have, she is proposing altering it. We have specific areas that are industrial and general commercial separated by commercial and mixed use which has created a zoning nightmare of NMU in between industrial which she doesn't like. She then showed the commission a draft of the altered map.

Thompson stated we have figures from the City Engineer which she has included in the Park Plan document so what we need now is prioritization, which one's does the Planning Commission what to put forward first, what is most important. If the commission would like

to study this we can do it at the next meeting. Helmer stated importance and feasibility, we have some input from the importance from the open house but we have to balance that with feasibility in order to accomplish it.

The Planning Commission/City Council joint meeting will be February 24, 2014. The Planning commission meeting will start at 6:30 and then the joint meeting will start at 7:00 PM.

**Park Plan;** Thompson stated she handed out a hard copy of the draft Park Plan Goals, Policies, Objectives and Mission Statement and in there is the Engineers estimates for Capital Improvements. She would like the commission to look over them and prioritize them for by feasibility and wants.

### **Next Meetings**

Our next meeting will be February 10, 2014 at 7:00

**Harris moved to adjourn the meeting. Howse seconded the motion and the motion carried.**

With nothing further the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chuck Helmer", is written over a horizontal line.

Chuck Helmer, Chairperson