

City of Buckley

Planning Commission Minutes

September 9, 2019

McPhail called meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The following members were present: Garland, Harris and Rose. Griffin arrived at 7:04 PM. Also in attendance were Associate Planner Leticia Wallgren and Planning Assistant Evan Lewis.

Garland moved to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2019 and August 19, 2019 Planning Commission meetings. Rose seconded the motion and the motion carried.

2019 Use Table – Public Hearing

Associate Planner Wallgren gave a brief presentation on the 2019 Use Table. She presented a timeline of the use code based on the minutes that she went through. Wallgren asked for any input from the Planning Commission if there is something that she missed because she hasn't been involved with this for quite some time.

Garland stated there are a couple things that should be changed on the staff report it is presented to the City Council. Kathy James, should be removed where there is a staff contact with her name on it and there is a typo on page 7 with the numbering that should be corrected.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:20 PM.

There was no public comment.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:20 PM.

Garland moved to accept the findings and conclusions as modified as our own, and to transmit the proposed ordinance concerning the 2019 Use Table to the City Council with a recommendation of approval. Harris seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Title 18, Subdivisions

a) 18.08 Exceptions

b) 18.12 General requirements – long and short plats

Garland stated we completed the definitions at the last meeting, so now we are moving onto the Exemptions and Exceptions. Wallgren asked if the latest copy in the packet the most

current copy. Garland stated he is not sure. Wallgren asked for him to email her the most recent copy. The Commission then went through the Exceptions and General requirements for long and short plats and made changes as discussed. Wallgren stated she spoke with our Planning Consultant and she stated she just finished working on the updates to the Subdivision Code for the City of Bellingham, the ordinance is on their website if you want to look at that to help with ours she said that would be fine. Garland stated on the Subdivision Code there are two ways to go and that is by being user friendly and the other is being City friendly. By that he means do we want to be more restrictive or less restrictive when writing the code. Keep in mind that you can always add more but it is hard to go permissive when you have already been restrictive. Discussion ensued. After discussion Garland stated what he is hearing is we want to be accommodating but not too permissive.

2023 Comprehensive Plan – Vision statement and ideas for next update

Harris stated we need to be aware that development is going to happen and we need to preserve what needs preserving and we allow what needs to go up, go up. Rose asked about the one sentence in the first paragraph in the Vision Statement where it says “it is the plan that documents the future the citizens want”. She feels it is grammatically awkward. Garland stated to get rid of this sentence completely. The Commission agreed. Rose stated in the second paragraph we should remove “for residents and future generations. Buckley citizens want” and should be “The goal is for the city to become.....” The Commission agreed. Harris stated under the section Preservation of town identity and character, in the middle of the first paragraph we need to remove the sentence “All the benefits of a tightly knit community can remain and likely could be enhanced” and the next sentence should read “With thoughtful planning, Buckley can work toward a vibrant local economy.....”

New/Old Business

Design Ordinance council action

Wallgren stated this was adopted by Council at the last meeting.

Shoreline Master Program update

Wallgren stated we are still waiting to hear back from Department of Ecology. The Council adopted it but now we are waiting from the Department of Ecology.

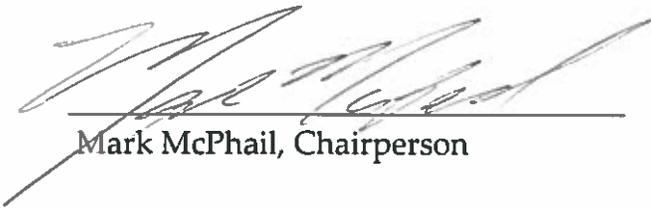
Comprehensive Plan E-7 & E-8 ordinance council action

Wallgren stated she needs to get together with Administrator Schmidt about this and where we are as a whole on this because there are several staff that have been involved in this. Wallgren stated we have the Transportation update due at the end of the year and we have a 2023 Comprehensive Plan update on the horizon. She and Evan have figured out deadlines and will try to meet those to the best of their ability. She would like to post the notice of

intent to adopt by October 11, 2019. We only have to have a draft, it doesn't need to be concrete. Walgreen stated she and Evan will be devoting about 10%-15% of their time on long range planning until current planning slows down. When looking at the budget they looked at Evan splitting his time 50/50 between long range and current planning and she will have hers at 80% current and 20% long range.

The next meeting will be September 23, 2019 at 7:00 PM.

With nothing further the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 PM.



Mark McPhail, Chairperson