



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES JULY 18, 2018

CALL TO ORDER:

The Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Daniel Hubbell at 6:10 PM in the Council Chambers at 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

ROLL CALL:

Chair Daniel Hubbell, Vice Chair Tiffin Goodman, Commissioners Craig Reynolds, Carolyn Boatsman, Lucia Pirzio-Biroli and Jennifer Mechem were present. Commissioner Ted Weinberg was absent.

City staff was represented by Evan Maxim, Interim Director, Nicole Gaudette, Senior Planner, Robin Proebsting, Senior Planner, Andrea Larson, Administrative Assistant, Bio Park, Assistant City Attorney, Ali Spietz, Assistant to the City Manager.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Agenda Item #1: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Election of Planning Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

Commissioner Boatsman nominated Commissioner Hubbell for Chair. The vote passed 5-0-1-1 (Weinstein absent, Hubbell abstained)

Commissioner Pirzio-Biroli nominated Commissioner Goodman for Vice chair. The vote passed 5-0-1-1 (Weinstein absent, Goodman abstained)

Agenda Item #2: Assistant to the City Manager / City Clerk Briefing

Ali Spietz, Assistant to the City Manager, gave a brief briefing on Planning Commission Minutes.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Pirzio-Biroli motioned to approve the minutes. Vice Chair Goodman seconded the motion. Commissioner Pirzio-Biroli proposed an amendment, seconded by Vice-Chair Goodman. 5-0-0 Reynolds abstained. Minutes were approved as amended 5-0-0 Commissioner Reynolds abstained.

APPEARANCES:

Lara Musso, Board chair FASP, 16964 NE 37th Place, Bellevue. Ms. Musso spoke in support of the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Mathew Goldbach, 9980 SE 40th St. Mr. Goldbach would like PC to give an example of a private public community in another jurisdiction. Mr. Goldbach spoke against the SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Debbie Newell, 2029 82nd Ave SE. Mrs. Newell spoke in support of the SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Amy Lavin, 7835 SE22nd Pl. Ms. Levin spoke in support SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Ms. Lavin described the outreach that the SJCC / FASPS/ Herzl-Ner Tamid have done. Ms. Lavin explained how this approach would allow for transparent growth and engagement with the community.

Cheryl D'Ambrosio, 3712 E Mercer Way. Mrs. D'Ambrosio encouraged PC to take safety as the primary concern on this comprehensive plan amendment.

Nickie Freedman 20214 NE 39th St, Sammamish. Mr. Freedman spoke in support of the SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Lisa Fein, 4895 Forrest Ave SE. Ms. Fein spoke in support of the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Harris Keline 5360 Landsdown Ln. Mr. Klein spoke in support of the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments and planning for the future in a balanced way.

David Woldhorn, 3930 89th Ave SE. Mr. Woldhorn spoke in support of the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Mr. Woldhorn spoke regarding how his neighborhood already is affected by traffic from these facilities, but that with the amendment it could be helped

Cartlin Monson 3808 E mercer Wy. Mr. Monson spoke against the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Mr. Monson indicated that Mercer Island excluded zones to keep the feel of the island. Mr. Monson questioned the benefit to Mercer Island resulting from the amendment.

Monica Monson, 3808 E Mercer Wy. Mrs. Monson spoke against the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Mrs. Monson spoke regarding the safety concerns on East Mercer Wy with cars and pedestrians.

Susan Robinson, 9715 Se 40th St. Ms. Robinson spoke on the impacts to her neighborhood with the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Ms. Robinson asks the Planning Commission to take safety into consideration. Ms. Robinson asks the Planning Commisison how are the residents going to know more regarding this project.

Dan Thompson, 7265 N Mercer Wy. Mr. Thompson spoke against the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Mr. Thompson spoke regarding the need for drafting development regulations concurrent with a comprehensive plan amendment.

Nicole Kelly, 9821 SE 40th St. Ms. Kelly spoke about how she is going to see a parking lot from her house. Ms. Kelly spoke against the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Ms. Kelly indicated that these facilities don't have the right to take away houses

John Hall, 9970 SE 40th St. Mr. Hall spoke of his concern regarding the proposed SJCC/ FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid Comprehensive Plan amendments. Mr. Hall spoke of what past City Councils had indicated if SJCC wanted to expand.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Agenda Item #3: CPA17-002 – SJCC / FASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid

Nicole Gaudette, Senior Planner provided a staff presentation on the purposed Comprehensive Plan and code amendments and on the outreach meetings that were held by the SJCC / SASPS / Herzl-Ner Tamid on Monday July 16.

Third meeting to review proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Code.

Commissioner Pirzio-Biroli questioned if other sites on the island could apply for this zoning code if it is approved. Additional sites could request a rezone, however that would require a comprehensive plan amendment and zoning change, similar to the current process.

Commissioner Pirzio-Biroli stated that traffic controls, safety and a master plan for the site need to be part of this comprehensive plan amendment.

Commissioner Goodman stated that there should be an additional sentence added regarding safety to the goal statement on page 8. Safety considerations should be of paramount considerations and thoroughly evaluated and shall be addressed; especially considering pedestrian and vehicular safety issues.

Commissioner Goodman stated that the housing goal is too in depth and should just state: Housing uses

should relate to the mission of and be accessory to the primary facility.
Commissioner Reynolds stated the word “and” should be changed to “or” on goal 8.

The Commission recessed at 8:15PM
The Commission reconvened at 8:27PM

Agenda Item #4: CPA18-002 / ZTR18-005 – Town Center Commuter Parking

Evan Maxim, Interim Director of Development Services, provided a brief staff presentation on the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Rezone for the “Parcel 12 / WSDOT” property, for commuter parking in Town Center.

Second meeting to review and discuss proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment and rezone. Mr. Maxim summarized the Planning Commission’s accompanying recommendations on the proposed amendment. The Commission recommends adding a goal of bicycle parking/ storage to recommendation 2. The Commission recommended changing the last bullet point to “Other Town Center Goals as indicated in the Comprehensive Plan.”
The Commission prioritized commuter parking for Mercer island Residents.

Agenda Item #5: CPA17-002 – Critical Areas Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Robin Proebsting, Senior Planner provided a staff presentation on the proposed comprehensive plan amendments related to the Critical Areas code update (No. 7).

The Commission discussed wildlife and if they should be added to the comprehensive plan amendment.

Policy identify local species of concern that live on Mercer Island. Identify species that were present, are present or an in decline on Mercer Island so that more protections maybe given to these species.

The Commission stated that they would like to keep bald eagle protections.

Commissioner Reynolds add language pertaining to water courses, ground water and water ways. Adding policies that pertain to noise, sound and air pollution. Add policy statement regarding small cell renewable energy sources.

The Commission agreed to have Commissioner Boatsman work with staff to integrate Commission suggested policy language with staff suggested policy language.

Agenda Item #6: CPA17-002 – Draft Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Evan Maxim, Interim Director of Development Services, provided a brief staff presentation on the proposed 2018 Comprehensive Plan Amendments No. 1-2, 3-6, 9-14.

The Commission stated that on Amendment No. 14, policy 16.6 should read: “... of flexible residential development standards should be...”.

The Commission stated that on Amendment No. 10, policy 3.5 should read: “...households, and accessible to people with disabilities.”

The Commission stated that Amendment No. 6, policy 23.9 should read: “...opportunities for housing... for artists.”

Commissioners identified several typographical errors for correction in the draft amendments.

The Commission discussed the options for the public hearings for the Comprehensive Plan Amendments. The Commission directed staff to schedule the public hearing for August 29 and September 5. The Commission also directed staff to prepare the “lets talk Mercer Island” website with proposed amendment materials for public review and comments.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No other business.

PLANNED ABSENCES

None

NEXT MEETING:

The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting will be August 1, 2018 at 6:00PM at Mercer Island City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Daniel Hubbell adjourned the meeting at 10:47PM