



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES MAY 30, 2018

CALL TO ORDER:

The Planning Commission was called to order by Chair Daniel Hubbell at 6:05 PM in the Council Chambers at 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

ROLL CALL:

Chair Daniel Hubbell, Vice Chair Tiffin Goodman, Commissioners Ted Weinberg, Lucia Pirzio-Biroli, Bryan Cairns, Carolyn Boatsman and Jennifer Mechem were present.

City staff was represented by Evan Maxim, Planning Manager, Andrea Larson, Administrative Assistant, Bio Park, Assistant City Attorney.

Commissioner Weinberg moved to approve the May 16, 2018 minutes, Commissioner Cairns seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as amended 7-0-0.

APPEARANCES:

Bob Medved 7238 SE 32nd St, Mr. Medved commented on the Town Center Comprehensive Plan amendment related to building height. Mr. Medved expressed his concerns about this amendment and not to re-write the Town Center code without any input or guidelines. Mr. Medved encourages the PC to do their due diligence.

Dan Thompson, 7265 N Mercer Wy, Mr. Thomason thanked the Commission on keeping in the notice requirements in the Procedural Code Amendment. Mr. Thompson expressed his concerns on Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 13, related to the Town Center. Mr. Thompson stated that height is not the answer to the Town Center. Mr. Thompson expressed his belief that this amendment is a backdoor way to change the Town Center code to increase the building height. Mr. Thompson recommended that the Planning Commission not recommend approval.

Lloyd Gilman, 7217 82nd Ave Se, Mr. Gilman commented on the Town Center Comprehensive Plan amendment related to building height. Mr. Gilman expressed his concerns regarding this amendment. Mr. Gilman commented on Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 14 and indicated it should not be approved.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Agenda Item #1: CPA18-001 – Town Center Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Evan Maxim, Planning Manager, gave a staff presentation introducing the proposed amendment identified on the Comprehensive Plan docket as item No. 13 related to the Town Center. Allowing additional height in some Town Center subareas, in return for additional public amenities.

The Commission discussed the initial draft of the comprehensive plan amendment.

Commissioner Pirzio-Birolo indicated that what should be considered is clarifying the amenities that are currently required.

Commissioner Weinberg stated that there does not appear to be any public interest in adding additional height added to the buildings in the Town Center.

The Commission expressed that at this time there was no interest in continuing this amendment and that the Commission would recommend that the Council not approve the docketed amendment.

Agenda Item #2:**CPA18-001 – Disaster Preparedness Comprehensive Plan Amendment**

Evan Maxim, Planning Manager, gave a staff presentation on the draft language for Comprehensive Plan amendment No. 9 related to disaster preparedness.

The Commission discussed the draft language of the disaster preparedness comprehensive plan amendment.

The Commission stated that the goal statement should include “And provide for long term recovery and renewal.”

Vice Chair Goodman indicated that express permitting should be stated as a part of this process for residents rebuilding after a disaster.

Commissioner Boatsman requested clarifying language on item 22.6, to clarify what was intended by “mid to long term development.”

Commissioner Cairns recommends changing the word “regularly” to “periodically” on item 22.1.

Commissioner Mechem indicated that the following language should be added to 22.3 & 22.4: “with attention to impacts on vulnerable populations.”

CPA18-001 – STAR Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Evan Maxim, Planning Manager, gave a staff presentation on the draft language for Comprehensive Plan amendment No. 12, creating support for the use of the STAR framework.

The Commission discussed the draft language of the STAR comprehensive plan amendment.

Commissioner Cairns indicated that in 21.2, the word "or" should be replaced with the word "and."

The Commission discussed the intent of the STAR Community Rating System and the phrasing of the draft goals and policies.

The Commission recessed at 8:10pm.

The Commission reconvened 8:21pm

The Commission agreed to have staff come back with some edited text for another review on the proposed goal and policy statement.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Evan Maxim, Planning Manager, provided a Planning Manger report on upcoming meetings and appointments of Commissioners for the next term.

Commissioner Cairns announced that he will be resigning his position on the Commission at the end of June.

PLANNED ABSENCES

None.

NEXT MEETING:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Daniel Hubbell adjourned the meeting at 9:42pm