



PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES JULY 15, 2015

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chair Weinman called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM in the Council Chambers at 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

ROLL CALL:

Vice Chair Richard Weinman, Commissioners Bryan Cairns, Tiffin Goodman, Craig Olson, and Suzanne Skone were present. City staff was represented by Scott Greenberg, Development Services Director, Kari Sand, City Attorney and Shana Restall, Principal Planner.

Commissioner Jennifer Mechem arrived at 7:07 PM.

Absences: Chair Jon Friedman

APPEARANCES:

There were no appearances from the public.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Cairns moved to approve the minutes from December 3, 2014. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. Commissioner Skone noted a scrivener's error. In the first line under Regular Business, "cote" should be changed to "code." The error was corrected and the minutes were unanimously approved (6-0).

REGULAR BUSINESS:

Agenda Item #1: ZTR15-002 - Zoning Code Text Amendment related to school impact fees

An Open Record Public Hearing was held on a proposed Zoning Code Amendment modifying Mercer Island City Code (MICC) Title 19 to adopt school impact fees.

Mr. Greenberg provided a presentation and overview on the proposed code text amendment, and answered questions from the Planning Commission.

Vice Chair Weinman opened the open record public hearing at 8:02 PM.

Testimony was taken from Ralph Jorgenson of 8040 84th Avenue SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Additional information was provided to the Commission by Denise Stiffarm, Legal Counsel for the Mercer Island School District, and Dean Mack, Chief Finance/Operations Officer for the Mercer Island School District.

The open record public hearing was closed at 8:52 PM.

The Planning Commission deliberated on the proposed amendment.

Commissioner Goodman motioned to recommend that the City Council approve the request for an amendment to Mercer Island City Code (MICC) Title 19, as detailed in Exhibit 2, provided that the proposal shall be modified to include a provision to reduce the fee for low income housing units up to 80 percent following staff research on the issue.

Commissioner Mechem seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

STAFF COMMENTS:

Scott Greenberg provided updates on the statuses of the following: 1) the Town Center visioning process; 2) the periodic Comprehensive Plan update process; 3) the Coval long plat; 4) a zoning text amendment proposed by Pagliacci Pizza regarding walk-off parking requirements; and 5) the former Albertson's Grocery site.

Mr. Greenberg also reminded the Planning Commission to fulfill training requirements pertaining to appearance of fairness.

PLANNED ABSENCES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

No planned absences were mentioned.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no announcements.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Planning Commission meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.